Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-165
Monday
28 August 1989

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-89-165 *28 August 1989*

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Further on Arab Information Ministers' Meeting 1
Iraq's Jasim on Lebanon *[INA]* 1
Syria's Salman Cited *[Damascus Radio]* 1
Declaration on Uprising, Lebanon *[KUNA]* 2
Ministers Conclude Session *[KUNA]* 2

Palestinian Affairs

Abu-Nidal Group Threatens To Kill 'Spies' *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 3
Palestinian 'Hizballah' Announced in Jerusalem *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 3
Issues Communique No 1 *[Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio]* 3
'Abbas on Israeli Contacts, PLO-Jordan Talks *[WAKH]* 4
Contacts Include Rabin *[Cairo Radio]* 4
'Arafat Reportedly To Decide on UN Visit 'Soon' *[WAKH]* 4
PLO Asks UN To Stop Expulsion of 5 'Militants' *[APS]* 5
PLO's Hurani Comments on Lebanese Situation *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 25 Aug]* 5
Commentary on 'Deadlock' in U.S.-PLO Dialogue *[Algiers VOP]* 5
Official 'Sources' on Shamir-Al-Turayfi Meeting *[MENA]* 6
PLO 'Building' Gold Reserves for Central Bank *[Amman AL-DUSTUR 27 Aug]* 7
Qaddumi Receives GDR Ambassador 27 Aug *[APS]* 7
Jordan's Husayn Pays Visit, Speaks With Mubarak 8
Arrives in Cairo 27 Aug *[MENA]* 8
Joint News Conference Held *[MENA]* 8
Departs After Brief Visit *[MENA]* 8
Mubarak Speaks on Foreign Relations, Subsidies *[MENA]* 8
Denies U.S. Requested Military Base *[MENA]* 9
Ghali Comments on Expulsion of Palestinians *[MENA]* 9
Zaki Badr Issues Directive on Hulwan Detainees *[MENA]* 10
Further on Arrest of Communists, Shiites *[MENA]* 10
Foreign Trade Sub-Committee Ends Talks in USSR *[MENA]* 10
DPRK Envoy Denies Nuclear Weapons Reports *[MENA]* 10
Shipment of Armored Vehicles Leaves for Kuwait *[MENA]* 11
PLO's 'Abbas Urges Arab Summit on Lebanon *[MENA]* 11
Opposition Party To Publish New Weekly Paper *[MENA]* 11

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Palestinian, Lebanese Figures *[Tripoli Radio]* 11
Further on Meeting *[JANA]* 11

Mauritania

Senegalese Envoy Used 'Unacceptable' Language *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 23 Aug]* 11

Sudan

Ambassador to Tehran Recalled for Consultations *[Cairo Radio]* 12
Spokesman on Recall Move *[BBC]* 12
Further on Shammu Statement *[Omdurman Radio]* 12
Government Wants 'Direct' Channels to Rebels *[SUNA]* 12

Government Reportedly Proposes 3-Stage Plan *[AFP]* 13

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Kuwait

Amir Departs for Official Visit to Egypt *[KUNA]* 14
Press Hails Visit *[KUNA]* 14
Editorial Cited on French Fleet Near Lebanon *[KUNA]* 14

PDRY

'Arafat Arrives in Aden; To Meet Al-'Attas *[INA]* 15
Criticizes U.S. Position *[Aden Radio]* 15

Saudi Arabia

Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Jeddah 27 Aug *[SPA]* 15

Yemen Arab Republic

'Arafat Makes Statement, Departs 25 Aug *[Sanaa Radio]* 15
'Arafat Visits Sanaa; Makes Statement 27 Aug *[Sanaa VOP]* 16
Meets Prime Minister; Departs *[Sanaa Radio]* 16

ISRAEL

Air Force Attacks Hizballah HQ in Lebanon *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 17
Spokesman Denies 2d Raid *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 17
Further on Possible Involvement in Colombian Drugs 17
'Pandora's Box' Threatened *[Jerusalem Radio]* 17
Cabinet Discusses Colombia *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 17
Shamir Interviewed on Israeli Link *[Jerusalem TV]* 18
Shamir: No Request From Colombia *[Jerusalem Radio]* 18
4 Uprising Leaders Deported; 5th Awaiting Plane *[Jerusalem Radio]* 18
Airport 'Disturbance' Noted *[Jerusalem Radio]* 18
Egypt Condemns Deportations *[HA'ARETZ 27 Aug]* 19
Officials Astonished at Egypt's Call to USSR *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 19
Arens Returns From Trip to Kenya 27 Aug *[Jerusalem Radio]* 19
More on Kenya Visit *[THE JERUSALEM POST 27 Aug]* 19
Officials Note French Attempt To 'Mend Fences' *[THE JERUSALEM POST 28 Aug]* 20
Security Service Commended in Solving Kidnapping *[HA'ARETZ 27 Aug]* 20
Shomron on Deportations, Upsurge in Violence *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 20
Erez Meets W. Bank Notables in Series of Talks *[Jerusalem Radio]* 21
Vilna'i Confers With 3 Gaza Notables 26 Aug *[Jerusalem Radio]* 21
Indifference to Measures in Territories Decried *[AL-NAHAR 24 Aug]* 21
Youth Killed in 26 Aug Clash With IDF *[Jerusalem TV]* 22
More on 26 Aug Incidents *[Jerusalem Radio]* 22
Further on 25, 26 Aug Unrest *[THE JERUSALEM POST 27 Aug]* 22
Bayt Safafa Resident Dies of Wounds 27 Aug *[Jerusalem Radio]* 22
Jabalyah Youth Dies of Wounds *[Jerusalem Radio]* 23
Further on 27 Aug Unrest *[AL HAMISHMAR 28 Aug]* 23

Jordan

USSR's Tarasov Visits, Meets Senior Officials 24
Commends Bilateral Relations *[Amman Radio]* 24
Al-Qasim Praises 'Soviet Support' *[Amman Radio]* 24
Assesses Talks, Departs 27 Aug *[Amman Radio]* 24
Syria's Al-Shar' Arrives for Talks With Leaders 24
Al-Shar' Brings Al-Asad Message *[Amman Radio]* 24

Meets With Ibn-Shakir *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 24
Holds News Conference *[Damascus TV]* 25
Further on News Conference *[JORDAN TIMES 28 Aug]* 25
Ministers' Talks Noted *[Amman Radio]* 26
King Leaves for Cairo, Talks With Mubarak *[Amman Radio]* 27
Crown Prince, Delegation To Visit U.S. 'Soon' *[AL-BAYAN 24 Aug]* 27

LEBANON

Israeli Warplanes Raid Iqlim Villages 27 Aug *[VOM]* 28
Several Claimed Wounded *[AFP]* 28
Islamic Resistance Statement *[Voice of the Oppressed]* 28
Janta Reportedly Raided 28 Aug *[Beirut Radio]* 28
2d Raid Reported *[KUNA]* 28
Hizballah Denies Raid on Janta *[VOL]* 28
Hizballah Leaders Threaten Israel, France *[AFP]* 28
Fadlallah Calls on Hizballah To Resist French *[VOL]* 29
Criticizes French Position *[Voice of National Resistance]* 29
Group Threatens Pope John Paul II *[RFL]* 29
National Front: Postpone Visit *[Voice of National Resistance]* 30
'Large Number' of Iranians Reportedly Arrives *[RFL]* 30
Junblatt Dismisses 22 Libyan Instructors *[Kuwait AL-ANBA' 26 Aug]* 30
Al-Huss Evaluates Initiative by USSR's Tarasov *[Beirut Radio]* 30
'Awn Said To Accept Proposals *[RFL]* 31
Al-Huss Comments on Dumas Settlement Proposal *[Beirut Radio]* 31
'Awn Forces Attempt To Infiltrate Salima *[VOM]* 31
More on 'Resistance Operation' *[VOL]* 31
Shelling, Clashes in Mountain, Beirut 28 Aug *[VOL]* 31

Syria

Khaddam Cited on Lebanon, Arab Committee Efforts *[WAKH]* 32
Foreign Minister Al-Shar' Returns From Jordan *[Damascus Radio]* 32
Press Cited on French 'Piracy' Against Lebanon *[Damascus Radio]* 32

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Foreign Ministry Protests U.S. 'State Terrorism' *[Kabul Radio]* 33
U.S. Congressional Candidate Meets Najibullah *[AFP]* 33
Wakil Departs for SFRY, Nonaligned Summit *[Kabul Radio]* 33
Najibullah To Attend Non-Aligned Conference *[AFP]* 34
President Najibullah Visits Jalalabad 27 Aug *[BAKHTAR]* 34
Mujahidin Leader Wants Najibullah's 'Surrender' *[Islamabad Radio]* 35
Soviet Peace Group Meets Defense Minister, Others *[BAKHTAR]* 35
Hekmatyar, Rabbani Groups Battle in Alingar *[Kabul Radio]* 35
'Intense Interfactional Fighting' *[AFP]* 35
AFP: Fighting Spreads 36
Rockets Seized; Clashes Among Extremists Noted *[BAKHTAR]* 36
U.S.-Made Missiles Discovered Outside Kabul *[Kabul Radio]* 37
'Extremists' Shell Jalalabad, Khowst District *[BAKHTAR]* 37
Mujahidin Deny Use of Cluster Bombs on Cities *[Islamabad Radio]* 37
Mujahidin 'Accelerated' Operations Detailed *[Islamabad Radio]* 37
Commentary Assails U.S. Support for Mujahidin *[BAKHTAR]* 37

Bangladesh

President Ershad Appoints New Health Minister *[AFP]* 38
Further on Ministerial Appointments *[Dhaka Radio]* 38
Foreign Minister Visits DPRK, Meets Leaders *[cross-reference]* 38

India

Gunmen Open Fire on People in Srinagar 25 Aug *[Delhi Radio]* 38
30 Injured in Clashes With Police in Srinagar *[Delhi TV]* 38
Soviet Team Visits, Studies Riot Control Methods *[AFP]* 38
Punjab Janata Dal Members Attack Party Leader *[Delhi TV]* 39
Congress-I Criticizes Opposition for Strike Call *[Delhi Radio]* 39
Congress-I Wants West Bengal Chief's Resignation *[Delhi Radio]* 39
Gandhi, Birendra To Meet in Belgrade 4 Sep *[Delhi Radio]* 39
Air Force Searching for Lost Pakistani Plane *[Delhi Radio]* 40
Center Develops Uranium-233 for Research Reactor *[Delhi Radio]* 40

Iran

Majlis Debate on Cabinet Begins 27 Aug *[Tehran Radio]* 40
President Opens Debate *[IRNA]* 40
President Explains Choices *[Tehran Radio]* 41
Majlis To Continue Debates *[Tehran Radio]* 42
Commentary Examines New Cabinet, Challenges *[TEHRAN TIMES 22 Aug]* 42
TEHRAN TIMES Assesses Proposed Cabinet *[20 Aug]* 42
Hashemi-Rafsanjani Moves to New Quarters *[TEHRAN TIMES 20 Aug]* 43
Musavi-Ardabili Guardians Council Seat Possible *[TEHRAN TIMES 21 Aug]* 43
Musavi-Ardabili Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon *[Tehran Radio]* 44
Further on Sermon *[Tehran Radio]* 45
Majlis Official on Cabinet's Electoral Procedures *[Tehran Radio]* 45
Majlis Committee Head on U.S. Policy, Hostages *[TEHRAN TIMES 22 Aug]* 46
Clerics Say Iran-U.S. Differences Irreconcilable *[IRNA]* 46
Mohtashemi Condemns 'Global Arrogance,' Zionists *[IRNA]* 47
French Warships in 'Retreat' From Lebanon *[Tehran Radio]* 47
Editorial Warns West To Stay Out of Lebanon *[TEHRAN TIMES 22 Aug]* 47
Paper Calls on Muslims To Attack French Interests *[IRNA]* 48
Use of Soviet Planes for Domestic Flights *[TEHRAN TIMES 20 Aug]* 48
Envoy to Japan Comments on Petrochemical Project *[TEHRAN TIMES 21 Aug]* 48
Plans To Purchase Arms From Italy Denied *[IRNA]* 49
Official Announces Boycott of IPU London Meeting *[IRNA]* 49
Diplomatic Training Facilities To Be Expanded *[TEHRAN TIMES 21 Aug]* 50
Daily Approves New Emphasis on Economic Policy *[IRNA]* 50
Drug Ring Identified, Arrested in Varamin *[Tehran Radio]* 50
Drug Traffickers Arrested in Sistan va Baluchestan *[Tehran Radio]* 51

Nepal

India's External Affairs Minister Rao Pays Visit 51
Holds 'Cordial' Talks With Shrestha *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Speaks With King Birendra *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Departs After 'Successful' Visit *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Foreign Minister Leaves for Nonaligned Meeting *[AFP]* 52
Upcoming Gandhi-Birendra Summit Welcomed *[Delhi Radio]* 52

Pakistan

UN Chief Concerned Over Afghan Situation *[Islamabad International]* 52
Minister Returns From Moscow, Cited on Talks *[Islamabad International]* 52
BBC Notes 2 Americans Aboard Missing Plane 53
Plane Presumably on Nanga Parbat *[Islamabad Radio]* 53
Sri Lanka Minister Delivers Letter to Ishaq Khan *[Islamabad International]* 53
Yaqub Khan Hosts Dinner for Maldives' Jameel *[Islamabad Radio]* 53
Bhutto Sends Message to New Polish Premier *[Islamabad Radio]* 53
Heroin in Peshawar, Hashish in Karachi Seized *[AFP]* 54

Sri Lanka

Officials Deny Bombs Aimed Against Premadasa *[AFP]* 54
LTTE Videotape Reportedly Shows Leader Alive *[AFP]* 54
Tamil Group Accuses Government of Arming LTTE *[AFP]* 54
Motion To Extend State of Emergency Passed *[Colombo International]* 55
5 Killed, 4 Injured by JVP 'Extremists' *[Delhi Radio]* 55
Communique Says 500 More Indian Soldiers Depart *[Colombo International]* 55

Inter-Arab Affairs

Further on Arab Information Ministers' Meeting

Iraq's Jasim on Lebanon

JN2408193289 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Aug 89

[Text] Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim has stated the need for the current meeting of Arab information ministers to issue a statement on the serious situation in Lebanon, calling a spade a spade and pinpointing the parties that are destroying that Arab country, disfiguring that beautiful country, and fragmenting Lebanon in an attempt to achieve the same thing on the scale of the entire Arab homeland. Speaking at the morning session of the Arab information minister's conference today, the information minister said that national necessity dictates working to expel non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon so that the Lebanese can reach an agreement to solve their problems on their own.

Latif Nusayyif Jasim asked: Why do some parties allow the Iranians into Lebanon? He added that we should frankly identify the party that brought the Iranians into Lebanon.

Jasim warned that the fire is not only aimed against Lebanon, but also against the rest of the Arab countries. The objective is to move the experiment of fragmentation from Lebanon on to the other Arab states. He added that if the conspiracy of fragmentation continues the fire will reach all the Arabs.

The Iraqi minister called for adopting dialogue and interaction to learn the facts. He said that the media is the mirror of politics and its mode of expression. When an Arab party extends a hand to an Iranian we have the right to look at this Arab in the same way we look at the Iranian, who is an enemy of the Arab nation. He repeated that there is no reason or excuse for any Arab party's support for, or alliance with a foreigner because this is something that is prohibited and must be fought. And it is legitimate to fight against an illegitimate state that, as an Arab country, entered into an alliance with a foreigner against the higher Arab interests—as happened in the Iraq-Iran war when an Arab country adopted such a position.

Jasim stressed the importance of developing common Arab action based on the principles of fraternity and pan-Arab principles, and using dialogue and interaction to deepen pan-Arab ties; and he stressed the importance of informing Arabs about what is happening in their own homeland, as it is illogical to know more about foreigners than about our Arab homeland.

Jasim noted the success of the bilateral cooperation experiments between Iraq and the other Arab states in the field of live television transmission and the exchange of experts and radio and television weekly dispatches.

Syria's Salman Cited

JN2608082489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis—In remarks to the conference of Arab information ministers in Tunis, Syrian Information Minister Muhammad Salman has stressed that the Iraqi regime, by creating war with the Islamic revolution in Iran and supporting the Zionist-oriented 'Awn clique, is involved in the most serious conspiracy against the Arab nation; namely, turning the Arab-Zionist conflict into a peripheral dispute that distracts the Arabs from their central issue, the Palestine question. The minister gave a detailed account of Iraqi-Iranian relations since the agreement between Iraq and the shah of Iran was signed in 1975, and the subsequent illegitimate reasons fabricated by Iraq to justify its aggression against the Islamic revolution in Iran—the revolution that had from the very beginning declared war against Israel, announced support for the Arabs to liberate the occupied Arab territories, and closed the embassy of the Zionist entity, turning it into a PLO office.

The minister said Syria spared no effort to prevent the eruption of this mad war and to explain its negative impact on the Arab struggle; namely, the creation of unjustified conflict between the Arab nation and the Islamic revolution in Iran, weakening both parties' ability to fight Zionism and imperialism instead of using the capabilities of the Iranian revolution as an additional asset to the Arab struggle against the enemies of the Arab nation.

The minister called for directing all efforts against the Zionist enemy, stressing that Syria's relations with world nations depend on these nations' positions toward the Arab-Zionist conflict. He added: After UN Security Council Resolution 598 was adopted and the Iraq-Iran war came to a halt, Iraq, instead of directing its capabilities against the Zionist enemy to liberate the occupied Arab territories, supplied the Zionist-oriented 'Awn clique with arms, without regard to the danger the Zionist entity poses to the Arab nation.

The minister pointed out to the conference that the draft resolutions presented by the Iraqi regime's delegation to the conference did not mention Israel. He wondered before the conference: Has Israel ceased to be an enemy of the Arabs in the opinion of the Iraqi regime? He stressed that the Iraqi regime has gone so far in its sin that it is the only world regime that recognizes 'Awn's military government.

On the fighting in Lebanon, the information minister stressed that the fighting is not sectarian as hostile media organs are trying to portray it; rather, it is a Lebanese problem that needs political, social, and constitutional reforms with a view to achieving justice and equality among all the Lebanese and abolishing privileges monopolized by a small faction at the expense of the majority of the Lebanese people.

The minister gave a historical and political review of the Lebanese crisis since its eruption in 1975, concentrating on Syria's sacrifices to preserve the unity of the Lebanese people and land and its support for the nationalist Lebanese forces in foiling the humiliating 17 May accords. He stressed Syria's constant support for Arab efforts aimed at solving the Lebanese crisis on the basis of the Casablanca summit.

Salman also mentioned Syria's sacrifices for the Palestinian cause since it began and said the Syrian Arab people will continue to make these sacrifices to liberate all occupied Arab territories. He stressed Syria's unlimited support for the valiant intifadah [uprising], which represents a gigantic pan-Arab challenge to the Zionist enemy. He also praised the heroism and sacrifices of the national resistance in southern Lebanon and the occupied Golan.

Declaration on Uprising, Lebanon

LD2508204289 Kuwait KUNA in English 1914 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, 25 Aug (KUNA)—Arab information ministers Friday stressed the significance of Arab media's commitment to vital national Arab causes on top of them the Palestinian intifadah (uprising) in the occupied territories.

In a political declaration they issued here today at the end of their 24th session, the ministers affirmed that the media should fully project the daily developments of the intifadah in such a manner that would mobilise the national feeling and carry the message of that heroic revolt to the outside world.

The ministers lauded the intifadah as an ultimate historic reply to the Israeli occupation and called for intensifying information activities and give the uprising priority in coverage on both Arab and global levels.

The declaration warned against attempts of containing the great results produced by the intifadah on pyschological, political and information fronts, which reflected the right of the Palestinian people for self-determination and establishment of their independent state on their homeland under the leadership of the PLO.

The ministers urged the Arab countries to step up efforts and concentate their information activities "to counter bids of media siege."

On the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, the ministers called on Arab media to put more emphasis on what had been stipulated in the final communique of the recent Casablanca Arab summit in this connection, particularly its call for pushing forward direct talks between the two countries in order to reach a lasting peaceful settlement to guarantee permanent stability in the region.

The declaration urged the Arab media to voice absolute support to Iraq's historical rights and sovereignty, on its territories and waters, including the Shatt al-Arab, which is considered entirely an Iraqi, Arab water-course.

The ministers appealed to the Arab media to stress the necessity of exchanging prisoners of war between Iraq and Iran in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva accords of 1949.

The ministers expressed utmost concern over the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and called on the Arab media to counter attempts to partition that war-torn Arab country.

In this regard, the ministers recommended that Arab media must lead a campaign stressing the need for withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from the country to allow the Lebanese people decide their future alone.

Ministers Conclude Session

LD2508193189 Kuwait KUNA in English 1623 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, Aug 25 (KUNA)—Arab information ministers Friday [25 August] called for the formation of a specialised ministerial council to deal with information issues in the Arab world citing the vital role of media [words indistinct] making and public opinion on global level.

Concluding their 24th session here today, the ministers urged members states to coordinate capabilities and potentials in media spheres to serve Arab causes, upgrade cultural standard of Arab people, protect them against foreign cultural invasion and maintain values of Arab and Islamic civilization.

The two-day ministerial meeting—the 24th session of the Arab information ministers—envisaged the importance of formulating all Arab information plans, programmes and projects within a framework that should be governed by a specialised ministerial council.

The proposed council will include information ministers of the member states and will serve as governing body of information activities provided that it must be entrusted with tasks such as planning, implementing, overseeing and following up Arab media activities.

The meeting recommended that basic charter and regulations of the proposed council be drawn up and presented to the forthcoming 25th session of the Arab information ministers council.

The ministers adopted several resolutions and recommendations, put forward by the 47th session of the permanent Arab information committee, concluded here last Tuesday, including proposals of an Arab information strategy to cover the international scene for 1990.

Referring to the Arab satellite link-up in the information field, the ministers approved a project of the lease of a regional channel on the Arabsat to be used for the benefit of institutions of Arab broadcasting stations union in

order to exchange daily news and reports about important events, cultural and technical festivals and sport tournaments.

The meeting asked the administration of Arabsat to report to the ministerial council on plans and studies adopted in this regard and to prepare detailed studies that would ensure the best utilisation of the Arab satellite.

On the Afro-Arab cooperation in the information and communication fields, the ministers resolved the convening of a meeting for senior Arab and African information experts to draw up a joint information plan that will cover all African aspects and serve as basis for setting up a joint committee of cooperation.

The meeting stressed the importance of holding the proposed Afro-Arab journalistic gathering on the Palestinian uprising in Noukachott, Mauritania, and called for rendering required financial support to the Baghdad-based Arab journalists union to ensure the success of the meeting.

The ministers approved holding a meeting of the committee entrusted with offering informational assistance to Djibouti [word indistinct] by Kuwait, and recommended a delegation to visit that Arab state in the second half of next October to examine the needed help with Djiboutian officials.

The ministers urged the members states to offer donations to boost the fund for backing the Palestinian uprising so that the information plan in this regard be fully implemented.

Palestinian Affairs

Abu-Nidal Group Threatens To Kill 'Spies'

JN2508142989 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] In Beirut, the Abu-Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] Fatah-Revolutionary Council threatened to execute 15 spies in retaliation for the assassination of ranking Fatah official Nu'man Rif'at Mas'ud in Sidon on Wednesday.

Fatah-Revolutionary Council did not mention the names or nationalities of the so-called spies, but said they belong to several groups implicated in the assassination operation.

Palestinian 'Hizballah' Announced in Jerusalem

JN2608055089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] A Palestinian source has said that leaflets distributed in East Jerusalem yesterday announced the birth of Hizballah in Palestine and declared jihad and armed struggle against the State of Israel and the United States. No confirmation of the appearance of the leaflets has so far been received. Furthermore, it is not known if this party has followers among the Palestinian inhabitants in the occupied Palestinian territory.

There are two Islamic fundamentalist movements in the occupied territories. They are the Islamic Resistance Movement [Hamas], and the Islamic Jihad Organization. They have been active since the beginning of the intifadah [uprising]

The majority of Palestinians belong to the Sunni sect. The leaflets do not indicate the religious denomination of the party and do not mention Lebanon or Iran.

Issues Communique No 1

JN2608184389 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1644 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Communique No 1 was issued by Hizballah—al-Faruq companies [saraya al-Faruq] in Palestine. The communique reads:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As to those who turn for friendship to God, his apostle, and the fellowship of believers, it is the fellowship of God that must certainly triumph. [Koranic verses] The call of al-Muharram from Khaybar to al-Qadisiyah, the jihad against injustice—the injustice of the Jews and U.S. arrogance through faith and rifle—is a human need. God be praised, for he supports the believers and humiliates the infidels. Peace be upon the example of the patient mujahidin, Prophet Muhammad. O valiant sons of our people, with the beginning of the new Islamic year, the shackles of slaves founder on the rock of your intifadah [uprising], and the ice melts from the crusaders' rancor, the Jewish evil, and the Arab weakness before the will of a people who are as strong as iron, who, for the sake of God, the land, and the oppressed, have sworn to offer further sacrifices.

Here is Hizballah; it declares itself as fruit of your great sacrifices to express a new and developed stage of your valiant intifadah through its jihad against the Zionist Jews and the traitor agents, and through its struggle for the sake of the unity of Muslims ranks away from party and tribal fanaticism.

O sons of our hero people, our objective, while we are emerging at the beginning of the new Islamic year, is not to draw attention to us, but to achieve together two goals; namely, the comprehensiveness of the intifadah so that it can be the intifadah of all the people—the old man, the child, the man, the woman, the merchant, the workers, the student, the teacher, and the clergyman together in confrontation of the Zionist Jews by all available means; and the Islamic identity of the intifadah so that it can have an Islamic goal, end, and means by advocating two major demands. These demands are: a persistent call for the unity of Islamic groups that exist and operate in all Islamic, Arab, and Palestinian arenas, and to call on the Islamic leaderships to abandon their arbitrariness and to give up their false pride for the sake of right, in support of the oppressed, and to work for forming an Islamic

leadership that is in harmony with the needs of the existing and operative Islamic movements. Calling on the national leaderships in Palestine and in the Arab and Islamic worlds to take care of the spiritual side of our life, especially as it is the important and decisive weapon in victory and self-determination. From this premise, Hizballah demands that you do the following:

—Strengthen spiritual and moral values, especially as they are the entrenched and important basis of victory. We should do our best to safeguard and protect them from loss in accordance with God's saying: God has promised to those among you who believe and work righteous deeds, that he will, of a surety, grant them in the land, inheritance of power. [Koranic verses]

—Purge hearts and consciences from sins and arbitrariness, for if we get rid of these diseases victory will be in our favor.

—O our people, help us against the soldiers of the Zionist Satan, do not work against us, be a life-giving agent and do not be a life-destructive agent. Beware of the disobedince of God, of having the morals of Satan, and of taking sides with false parties.

—Pursue jihad until victory or martyrdom. We declare that it is our right as a people, who are demanding their land, defending their dignity and honor, and facing death by confronting the bullets of treachery and injustice, to carry weapons in the face of the treacherous Zionist enemy, beginning with the stone, the slingshot and Molotov cocktail, and ending with the pistol and booby-trapped cars. This is because our sons are being killed with cold blood by the Zionist army and settlers. We warn the army, the agents, and the traitors against continuing their war against the people. Hizballah and its revolutionary justice will lie in wait for them. We will take revenge for every innocent drop of blood that was shed at your hands. Our reply will be violent, strong, and effective, God willing. We will triumph, God willing.

[Signed] Hizballah—al-Faruq companies

'Abbas on Israeli Contacts, PLO-Jordan Talks

JN2608104189 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0805 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 26 Aug (WAKH)—Mahmud 'Abbas—Abu Mazin—PLO Executive Committee member, has expressed the hope that the U.S. Administration will present American proposals that are not connected with the Israeli ideas.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD today, 'Abbas said: When this happens we will feel that there is progress in the U.S position. He noted that the latest PLO-U.S. dialogue session in Tunis did not make any progress due to U.S. insistence on espousing the Israeli viewpoint and implementing the Shamir election plan despite the PLO affirmation that it rejects the election plan in all its aspects.

Abu-Mazin denied any intention by the Palestinian leadership to retreat now from the Palestinian peace initiative or to stop the dialogue with the United States. He said that the Palestinian leadership will go back to the Palestine National Council to report on developments in the Palestinian peace initative.

The Palestinian official confirmed the existence of indirect contacts between the PLO and some Israel officials on the issue of elections in the occupied territory.

He said the PLO categorically rejects authorizing the Palestinians in the occupied territories to discuss the elections with the Israelis, but the PLO is prepared to form a Palestinian delegation from both inside and outside the territories to discuss with Israeli officials the issue of elections as a part of a comprehensive settlement.

Abu-Mazin noted that dialogue with the Israeli peace forces continues and will continue in order to promote the Israeli peace movement and strengthen and expand its basis for the sake of peace.

'Abbas denied that President Yasir 'Arafat discussed with Jordanian officials recently the call for reviving the Amman agreement. He said the talks only dealt with expanding and escalating political coordination between Jordan and the PLO; and a joint committee has been formed which will be in continuous session to consider this coordination.

Contacts Include Rabin

NC2608184189 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu- Mazin, asserted today that indirect contacts on the plan for holding elections in the occupied Arab territories are taking place between the PLO and some Israeli officials including Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

'Arafat Reportedly To Decide on UN Visit 'Soon'

JN2808085389 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Aug (WAKH)—A Palestinian official has said that the visit to the United Nations by Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat is being discussed by the Palestinian leadership because it is linked with the American and Israeli positions as well as with the basic conviction that the United Nations has a major role to play in resolving the Palestine question. In a statement published in today's Abu Dhabi-based AL-ITTIHAD, Hasan 'Abd-al-Rahman, chief of the Palestinian information office in Washington that was closed by the American authorities, said that 'Arafat will decide on this matter soon.

In making the decision, he will take into account many considerations, particularly the negative American position, which has not come close to the Palestinian peace initiative, and the continued Israeli intransigence and repressive campaign against the Palestinian people.

Additional considerations are the renewing of the Palestinian initiative, underlining the central UN role in resolving the Palestine question, international support for the Palestinian peace program, and the positive international reaction to it.

'Abd-al-Rahman said the Palestinian leadership, so far, has not decided whether to authorize the intifadah [uprising] to resort to arms against the occupation authorities. AL-ITTIHAD says that the prevailing Palestinian view is that 'Arafat will address the UN General Assembly at the end of November when the Palestine issue is discussed. Some Palestinian and Arab circles believe that the discussion of the Palestine question this year is particularly significant as it will be the first meeting on the peace issue since the proclamation of the Palestinian state and the announcement of 'Arafat's initiative before the UN General Assembly in Geneva.

PLO Asks UN To Stop Expulsion of 5 'Militants'

LD2708124389 Algiers APS in English 1112 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, 27/8/89 (APS)—A spokesman of the PLO has asked yesterday the UN and the Security Council to intervene to stop the expulsion by Zionist occupation forces of five Palestinian militants.

In a statement released yesterday in Tunis by WAFA news agency, PLO said the Israeli administration had decided August 24th to expulse from occupied territories five militants of the Palestinian cause. The statement denouces this attempt to human rights and asks international organisations to act in order to put an end to these Zionist practices against Palestinian population.

PLO's Hurani Comments on Lebanese Situation

JN2708154289 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 25 Aug 89 pp 1, 21

[Excerpts] Cairo—PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani has hailed the call of His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, to convene an Arab summit conference to find a solution to the Lebanese crisis. He said that the Palestinian delegation to Cairo yesterday discussed with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, the Lebanese issue and the need to exert every effort to speed up the solution, because the continuation of the crisis will destroy Lebanon and will pose a threat to Lebnanon and its sovereignty as well as to other parts of the Arab region. [passage omitted]

Hurani also told AL-ITTIHAD that the Palestinian delegation has fully briefed Dr 'Abd-al-Majid on the Amman talks and the specific bases of a joint move worked out by Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO as principles for the settlement of the Palestinian problem as well as on ways to move in the international arena. The two sides also agreed on the need to mobilize the Arab efforts to promote these principles and bases and to utilize Arab influence in the international arena.

Regarding Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf's statement that the PLO will not allow Palestinians from the occupied territories to hold contacts with Israel, Hurani said that the statement came in response to U.S. and Israeli insistence on excluding the PLO from the contacts. He added that these sides want to restrict dialogue with these Palestinians and to try to draw them into Shamir's plan, a matter which is rejected by these Palestinians and the PLO.

Hurani added that stopping the contacts in the occupied territories is essentially the view of the Palestinian masses there, because they feel that the purpose is to split the Palestinian people and divide their cause and to create alternatives to the PLO, a purpose which is flatly rejected.

Commentary on 'Deadlock' in U.S.-PLO Dialogue

LD2708220389 Algiers Voice of Palestine Arabic 1702 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Brothers, it is now almost certain that the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue is threatened to reach a deadlock. It is well known that the principal reason for that is the fact that the United States adopts the Israeli points of view, and behaves at the dialogue sessions as if the United States is negotiating on behalf of Israel and does not represent itself and its own stances as a superpower.

The U.S. negotiators' style in the dialogue stems from and cunning trick which they present within a framework of innocence, which has become annoying and boring.

The U.S. negotiators say that the Palestinians submit principles for the settlement whose broad lines are the withdrawal of Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state. In exchange, the Zionist enemy submits counterprinciples whose broad lines are the Greater Israel and autonomy. If we proceed in organizing the negotiations from the principles of both sides, the result will be failure. Therefore, it is imperative to ignore the principles of both sides and to start by numerous and continuous procedural measures until we reach, at the end, a political solution acceptable to both sides.

By this apparently innocent submission, the U.S. negotiator thinks that he could hide its political crudeness. The U.S. negotiator tries to convince the Palestinian delegation that the Israeli occupation is parallel and equivalent to demanding an end of the Israeli occupation. He exerts extraordinary effort to submit, in a logical form, that the occupier equals the victim and that Rabin, who oppresses the Palestinian people everyday and kills the children of the Palestinian people everyday is equivalent to the young man who throws a stone calling for an end of the Israeli occupation.

Also, in the eyes of the Americans occupation is a principle and the call for ending occupation is another principle, and the two contradictory principles cannot be reconciled, therefore they should be removed from the negotiating table and only the procedural matters should be considered, i.e. we should start the process and leave everything to the future.

The U.S. negotiator feels that the Palestinian delegation is completely bored by this argument, he adds for the sake of warming up the dialogue and giving it a degree of enthusiasm: Do not think that the United States has submitted principles for the settlement based on "land in exchange for peace," and do not forget that President Bush has, during the past days, gone through a battle against the U.S. congress, defending the necessity of continuing the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue. However, these U.S. words, similar to the Palestinian words and the Israeli words, should all be removed from the table and we should start with only the procedural measures between the Palestinians and the Israelis. This is what the U.S. negotiator says.

However, the American innocence does not stop here. It moves directly, after presenting the introduction, to adopting the Israeli procedural plan, which is based on the following lines: Holding elections in the occupied territories according to Shamir's plan and not the Palestinian plan. Why? This is what the Americans think! After that there should be negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians from the occupied territories about the transition period, i.e. about the autonomy. Then, in a later period, a move should take place toward negotiations in the final stage, perhaps within 15 years, as the Israeli plan says.

When the U.S. negotiator is asked: You are negotiating with the PLO, and you know that nobody in the occupied Palestinian territories accepts to negotiate with Israel without the permission of the PLO, why then do you insist that the negotiations should be conducted with the Palestinians of the territories and not with the PLO? The U.S. negotiator answers this question by saying: Because Israel does not accept to negotiate with the PLO, i.e. because in every point and at every turning point the United States adopts the Israeli point of view and the Israeli procedural scheme. The essence of this scheme is the attempt to divide the Palestinians to internals and externals, the attempt to divide them to elected Palestinians and non-elected Palestinians, then after all that the attempt to divide the representation of the Palestinian people and to break his unity, and at the end cancelling the role of the PLO, which is a leading role.

When dividing the Palestinians, cancelling their unity as a people and a cause, and cancelling the leading role of the PLO are completed, the road will be open for cancelling the demand for an independent Palestinian state and insisting on the demand for the autonomy, i.e. the road will be open for the same Israeli procedural scheme.

Here, we should not forget that the U.S. Administration, in spite of some positive points in its stance towards the Arab-Israeli conflict, has remained publicly committed to its stance of rejecting the idea of the Palestinian state. We should also not forget that the United States is looking for excuses to contain the Palestinian position and threaten it. Here the U.S. Administration is using a double standard which expose its true intentions. When the Likud adopted its extremist stances, the U.S. reaction—to protect the Israeli position—was that Washington deals with governments and not with political parties. When Fatah announced the resolutions of its fifth conference stressing its commitment to the Palestine National Council resolutions, however the United States launched a concentrated media campaign because Fatah did not declare that it abandons the armed action. The matter reached the level of the U.S. officially demanding a clarification of the Fatah stance. The saying that the U.S. deals with the Palestinian state and not with the Palestinian organizations was completely forgotten.

For all these reason, the U.S.-Palestinian negotiations are facing the danger of reaching a deadlock. This deadlock cannot be broken until the U.S. decides to abandon the literal adoption of the Zionist point of view and to stop its innocence which calls for overtaking the principles and going for the procedures.

If the negotiating ambassador, Robert Pelletreau, is annoyed by this accusation, then this is his own business.

Official 'Sources' on Shamir-Al-Turayfi Meeting

NC1808134589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1205 GMT 18 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, 18 Aug (MENA)—Responsible Palestinian sources have revealed that lawyer Jamil al-Turayfi, one of the leading Palestinian figures who met recently with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, has recently visited Tunis and met with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat and some PLO leaders.

These sources told MENA that Shamir knew before he met with Al-Turayfi that he is one of the figures close to the Fatah Movement and known to have very close ties with Yasir 'Arafat, president of the Palestinian state, but Shamir wagered on the Palestinians inside [the occupied Arab territories], hoping to convince them to respond to his plan.

The responsible source [as received] added that Al-Turayfi stressed to Shamir the PLO's stand on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the inevitability of a dialogue with the PLO, while on his side Shamir stressed that the dialogue will be held with those inside the territories and not with the PLO and that "the solution ceiling is the autonomy solution."

Al-Turayfi was cited as saying that Shamir stressed during their meeting that he does not accept, neither today nor in the future, discussion of any matters related

to the independence of the West Bank and the Gaza strip and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Shamir also noted that he will resist the notion of establishing a state in the West Bank and Gaza even if he is outside the government.

Al-Turayfi has stressed in earlier media statements that there is no alternative leadership to the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat. He also noted that the elections plan is unacceptable, that the intifadah [uprising] is not a war but a message of peace, and that repression of the intifadah will only make the Palestinian people more determined to reach a peaceful solution.

PLO 'Building' Gold Reserves for Central Bank

JN2708070089 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Aug 89 pp 1, 17

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR—A Palestinian source in Amman has said that the PLO has taken practical steps to build a central reserve like any other state and is building gold reserves to found a Palestinian central bank.

He told AL-DUSTUR that the participants in the Fatah general congress held in Tunis at the beginning of this month donated gold such as rings and gold chains to form the nucleus of gold reserves for the proposed Palestinian central bank.

The source clarified that despite the occupation measures the PLO has proceeded to build the institutions and organs of the independent state on the ground especially after the blessed intifadah [uprising] and the committees formed in the occupied territories which practice an effective role in providing services to the citizens on which they fully depend.

Qaddumi Receives GDR Ambassador 27 Aug

LD2708124189 Algiers APS in English 1018 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Tunis, 27/8/89 (APS)—Faruq Qaddumi, foreign minister of the state of Palestine, conferred yesterday with ambassador of German Democratic Republic in Tunis. The ambassador reiterated support of his country to the Palestinian cause and the intifadah [uprising].

Talks took up also latest developments on the Palestinian scene after the intensification of the intifadah in the face of terrorist practices of Zionist forces in occupied territories.

Egypt

Jordan's Husayn Pays Visit, Speaks With Mubarak

Arrives in Cairo 27 Aug

NC2708091989 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0907 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 27 Aug (MENA)—Jordan's King Husayn arrived in Cairo this afternoon for talks with President Husni Mubarak on the latest developments in the Arab arena, bilateral relations, and relations among the Arab Cooperation Council countries. President Mubarak and other senior state officials met him at the airport.

Joint News Conference Held

NC2708145489 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1306 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 27 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has expressed the hope that Syria will cooperate with the Arab tripartite committee to facilitate the committee's mission and prevent problems and deadlocks among Arabs.

In a joint news conference with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan following their 3-hour meeting today, President Mubarak said that we must not leave it to non-Arab countries to resolve the situation in Lebanon because that will make us appear weak before the world.

President Mubarak opened the news conference with a statement welcoming King Husayn. He said that he and King Husayn have long become accustomed to meet from time to time and noted that the two countries are members of the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC], the four members of which cooperate in various spheres.

The president said that during today's talks, he and King Husayn had discussed issues of bilateral and ACC interest, noting that an ACC summit will be held in Sanaa in September. He added that they had also discussed Egyptian-Jordanian ties and cooperation in various spheres.

King Husayn expressed his thanks to President Husni Mubarak and stressed the pride he takes in President Mubarak's friendship and fraternity. He also noted with satisfaction his visit to dear Egypt and the complete understanding between Egypt and Jordan. King Husayn asserted that great achievements have been made. He said that his visit to Egypt had provided an opportunity to discuss all ways of promoting the joint progress of the two countries within the framework of the ACC. He noted that they had also discussed issues of regional and international interest.

Answering a question on his views of the Lebanese issue and the charter of reform and reconciliation proposed by the Arab tripartite committee, the Jordanian monarch said all Arab peoples and leaders are pained by what is happening to Lebanon and declared that the current state of affairs cannot continue. He said: Naturally we discussed the issue with our brothers at the recent Arab summit in Morocco at which the Arab tripartite committee was created.

King Husayn noted that the tripartite committee had embarked on its mission and submitted a report. He expressed support for the tripartite committee, stressing at the same time that the situation in Lebanon cannot continue. He said: We are waiting to learn whether the committee will resume its work.

On the prospect of holding an Arab summit to deal with the Lebanese situation, King Husayn said he had already agreed that a summit should be held within 6 months of the latest Arab summit. He stressed that he always supports the convening of Arab summits because they yield good results.

Responding to a question on the Lebanese crisis, President Husni Mubarak said that he hopes that the tripartite committee, which is made up of three Arab leaders [Saudi King Fahd, Moroccan King Hassan, and Algerian President Bendjedid], will cooperate with the Lebanese parties and with the other parties found in Lebanon, including Syria. He noted that the committee created at the latest Arab summit and authorized to work to restore Lebanese sovereignty has reached a deadlock or a semi-deadlock.

President Mubarak also expressed the hope that Syria will cooperate with the committee to facilitate its work and to prevent problems and deadlocks because "we, as Arabs, are responsible for what has happened in Lebanon and we must search for a solution so that we do not appear weak and incapable of resolving our own problems and upholding our own causes."

Departs After Brief Visit

NC2708132089 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1243 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 27 Aug (MENA)—King Husayn of Jordan left Cairo for home this afternoon after a brief visit of several hours.

President Husni Mubarak saw him off at the airport. Earlier his majesty had been given an official farewell at the Presidential Palace following talks with President Mubarak. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Speaks on Foreign Relations, Subsidies

NC2508154689 Cairo MENA in English
0725 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, Aug 25 (MENA)—At a meeting with the faculty and students of Alexandria University yesterday, President Husni Mubarak declared "we will not allow foreign domination of our strategic enterprises," that Egypt's relations with the world, East and West, were excellent and that Egypt's relations with Libya and Syria had improved, reported AL-AKHBAR in its banner headline and leading front-page story.

The newspaper also quoted the president as saying that state subsidies of prices of consumer goods would be rationalized gradually without any additional burdens being laid on the poor.

President Mubarak's meeting with members of Alexandria University faculty and students attending the university's second summer camp is also reported prominently on AL-AHRAM front page. In a three-hour discussion with students and members of the university's faculties, the president replied to questions about matters preoccupying them, AL-AKHBAR quoted Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji, head of the state information service, as saying.

President Mubarak said that the government would not allow foreign domination over Egypt's strategic enterprises to creep in again. [passage omitted]

On Egypt's international relations, he said that Egypt maintained excellent relations with the world, East and West and its relations with Syria and Libya had improved in the interests of their peoples and the Arab nation.

Egypt, President Mubarak said, was making every effort to reach a just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict that would ensure the rights of the Palestinian people. [passage omitted]

Denies U.S. Requested Military Base

NC2608081589 Cairo MENA in English
0635 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, Aug 26 (MENA)—At a meeting with students and members of the faculties of Alexandria University, President Husni Mubarak said that public sector profit-making companies cannot be sold and that the major public-sector enterprises owned by the people cannot be disposed of because these are "big industrial citadels and strategic enterprises that bring in revenue to the state and thus to the people and contrbute towards social justice," report the three Cairo Arabic-language morning dailies in their top billing and leading front-page stories.

During the two-hour meeting, the president replied to questions by students of the university. He said that public sector companies realized profits that exceeded 1,652 million pounds and incurred losses that amounted to 402 million pounds.

The newspapers highlight in their top billing President Mubarak's declaration that the government would give some commercial companies and service enterprises to the private sector and that Egypt will not stop paying its debts and was not seeking their writing off.

"All that we ask is that the period of repayment be extended in order to alleviate the burdens of the people", he said.

Denying reports that the United States had again broached the question of having a military base in Ras Banas, the president said the matter had been settled completely a long time ago, was no longer up for discussion.

Replying to a question by a professor of the university, the president said the government was taking studied plans for rationalizing state subsidies gradually in such a way that no additional and sudden burdens were laid on the poorer classes of the people.

He said Egypt required that every citizen work unceasingly. He pointed out that the massive investments made in projects were intended principally for the benefit of youths and for the future of the country. These investments could not be raised from the state revenues or from national savings and had to be obtained by contracting loans from abroad. These investments had to be made to set up an infrastructure and the alternative would be stagnation.

President Mubarak warned that if the appalling increase in population continued at this rate Egypt would face a disaster. "This generation must bear the responsibility for building for posterity", he said.

He also pointed out that Egypt's relations with all the world were excellent and that had it not been for Egypt's international stature, it would not have obtained economic facilities. Egypt, he said, was going through an unprecedented phase in its history as its relations with all nations of the world, East and West, were excellent. Egypt's relations with each of Libya and Syria had improved for the benefit of the peoples of the three countries. [passage omitted]

Ghali Comments on Expulsion of Palestinians

NC2608150189 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1342 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 26 Aug (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has commented on Israel's deportation of four Palestinians by saying that the Israeli authorities' continued acts of repression against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the expulsion of Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and Gaza is an Israeli crime against the Palestinians that violates international law and the Geneva conventions on the treatment of civilians in territories under occupation.

Dr Ghali added that Egypt has told the Israeli Government through its ambassador in Cairo that it condemns these crimes, which obstruct the peace process in the Middle East. He said that Egypt had urged Israel to put an immediate halt to actions that hinder the achievement of peace between the Arabs and Israel.

Zaki Badr Issues Directive on Hulwan Detainees

NC2708210389 Cairo MENA in English
2058 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo Aug 27 (MENA)—Interior Minister Zaki Badr gave directives today to consider the release of a number of detainees of events of the iron and steel complex of Hulwan, south Cairo. Detainees of these events total 39 persons.

The interior minister's directives included the gradual release of these detainees, whose arrest he had ordered due to their involvement in the Hulwan events.

The supreme state security prosecution is questioning 159 [number as received] arrested persons. It ordered that they be remanded in custody due to their involvement in last month's iron and steel complex's unrest. The prosecution is to renew tomorrow their remanding in custody pending case investigation.

Further on Arrest of Communists, Shiites

NC2608082289 Cairo MENA in English
0641 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Cairo Aug 26 (MENA)—[Passage omitted] AL-JUMHURIYAH reports in its second-lead story a statement by Interior Minister Zaki Badr that the security authorities had seized tons of leaflets when they apprehended two subversive organizations which intended to breach security, commit sabotage and incite the masses of the population against the government.

One of the two organisations was a Shiite ring comprising 52 defendants, some of whom were citizens of Arab states and were at large. Some of the ring's members had gone to Syria for training in order to carry out sabotage in Egypt.

The other ring was an offshoot of a communist organization in an Islamic country in which communist principles were not in favour. The communist organization, the minister said, styled itself as the Egyptian Communist Labour Party.

According to AL-AHRAM's report, the Higher State Security Prosecution yesterday ordered 52 members of the Egyptian Communist Labour Party to be held in custody on the charge of belonging to an illegal, clandestine organization.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM reports that the prosecution confronted members of the Shiite organization with vocal recordings, one of which was a message addressed by the founder of the organization to members of the organization about its mission. The newspaper says that eleven out of the 52 defendants in the case are at large. [passage omitted]

Foreign Trade Sub-Committee Ends Talks in USSR

NC2508211989 Cairo MENA in English
1940 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Moscow, Aug 25 (MENA)—A sub-committee on trade, stemming from the Egyptian-Soviet committee on economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation, wound up proceedings here today. The five-day meetings covered consultation with the Soviet officials and agreement on increasing the volume of cooperation in accordance with basis laid down in the two countries' protocol for 1990.

The two sides also considered the signing of a new long-term (1991-1995) agreement carrying a one-billion-pound sterling cooperation mark to be attained at the end of the period. Committee proceedings were successful, said Muhsin Shihab chairman of the foreign trade organization, who headed the Egyptian delegation. He said he met with Foreign Economic Relations Minister Konstantin Fedorovich Katuchev.

DPRK Envoy Denies Nuclear Weapons Reports

NC1708202289 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1137 GMT 17 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 17 Aug (MENA)—DPRK Ambassador to Cairo Kim Yong-sop [name as received] has said that Egyptian-DPRK relations are strong and improving in all political, economic, and military fields. Speaking at a press conference today, the ambassador said that bilateral ties have benefited in particular from the excellent personal rapport between Presidents Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Kim Il-song.

The DPRK ambassador mentioned that Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif will visit the DPRK this year, heading a party and government delegation to consolidate cooperation between the two countries. The ambassador praised the information agreements concluded between the two countries.

The DPRK ambassador to Egypt underlined the need to create peaceful zones in the world. He noted that his country is calling for northeast Asia to be turned into a peaceful zone that is free from nuclear weapons. Such a measure, he said, would help promote the prospects for a complete nuclear disarmament.

The DPRK ambassador noted that his country signed the international conventions banning nuclear weapons since December 1985. The DPRK, he said, is calling for the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons to be included in the agenda of the currnt U.S.-USSR talks.

The DPRK ambassador expressed hope that the atmosphere of international detente will help bring peace to the Korean peninsula.

The ambassador repudiated reports by some Western newspapers linking a certain nuclear reactor near Pyongyang to the manufacture of nuclear weapons and

claiming that DPRK has begun to produce heavy water for this purpose. The DPRK ambassador said the purpose of these claims is to justify the presence of a nuclear arsenal in the DPRK, including Pershing missiles and neutron bombs.

Shipment of Armored Vehicles Leaves for Kuwait

NC2508211189 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1850 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Suez, 25 Aug (MENA)—Two cargo ships left the port of Suez for Kuwait this morning carrying the first part of a shipment of Egypt's "Fahd" armored vehicles. Under the terms of an arms deal signed between Egypt and Kuwait last year, Kuwait last week received a shipment of Egyptian-made jeeps.

Two Egyptian technical committees from the Qadir Company for Modern Industries and the Arab-American Automobile Company, both of which are subsidiaries of the Arab Industrialization Organization, will leave Cairo within the next 2 days to supervise the delivery of the armored cars and jeeps to Kuwait.

PLO's 'Abbas Urges Arab Summit on Lebanon

NC2608172389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Cairo, 26 Aug (MENA)—PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu-Mazin, has stated that the Palestinian delegation which just completed a visit to Cairo proposed that an extraordinary Arab summit be convened to discuss the Lebanese crisis during its talks with Egyptian officials.

The Palestinian official said that the Palestinian delegation emphasized the PLO's desire to preserve Lebanon's unity and its people's sovereignty over their land. He pointed out that the PLO is also concerned with safeguarding the lives of the 500,000 Palestinians who live in Lebanon.

In a statement to MENA, Abu-Mazin repored that the talks between the Palestinian delegation and Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, focused on Palestinian moves, the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue, and the prospects of a broad-based Arab move to end the war in Lebanon.

Mahmud 'Abbas and the delegation accompanying him, which included PLO Executive Committee member Jamal al-Surani and 'Abdallah Hurani, left Cairo yesterday after a 2-day visit.

Opposition Party To Publish New Weekly Paper

NC2008095689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 20 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Cairo 20 Aug (MENA)—The leader of the Al-Ummah party, Ahmad al-Sabahi, said today that the higher press council's ruling allowing the party to publish the new weeky newspaper MISR AL-YAWM [EGYPT TODAY] emphasizes and consolidates democracy in Egypt. He said that this approval also shows the National Democratic Party government's willingness to let those with different opinions, both within and without the party, express their views. [passage omitted]

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Palestinian, Lebanese Figures

LD2608235189 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has recieved brothers Ahmad Jibril, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command; Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], secretary of the Fatah Provisional Command; 'Arabi 'Awwad, the secretary general [as heard] of the Palestinian Communist Party; [words indistinct] Abu-al-Qahir, member of the Politburo of the Palestinian Revolutionary Communisty Party; 'Umar Harb, the secretary general of the Arab Socialist Union in Lebanon [title as heard]; 'Isam Hayra, head of the Syrian Social National Party [words indistinct] and George Batal, member of the Political Bureau of the Lebanese Communist Party.

Further on Meeting

LD2708102489 Tripoli JANA in English 0808 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 27, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received Ahmad Jibril, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (General Command); Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], the secretary of the Provisional Command of Fatah; 'Arabi 'Awwad, the secretary general of the Palestinian Revolutionary Communist Party; Abu-Khalid al-Imlah and Ba 'Ali Mahdi, both members of the Provisional Command of Fatah [names, titles as received]; Abu-al-Qahir, member of the Politburo of the Palestinian Revolutionary Communist Party; 'Umar Harb, the secretary general of the Arab Socialist Union in Lebanon; 'Isam Hayra, the president of the Syrian Nationalist Social Party al-Tawari; and George Batal, member of the Political Bureau of the Lebanese Communist Party.

Mauritania

Senegalese Envoy Used 'Unacceptable' Language

PM2508114189 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 23 Aug 89 pp 1,2

[Qasiy Salih al-Darwish report: "Mauritanian Sources Tell AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Senegalese Ambassador's Expulsion an Expression of Our Indignation"]

[Excerpt] Paris, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Responsible Mauritanian sources have affirmed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Mauritania's announcement declaring the

Senegalese ambassador in Nouakchott persona non grata was no more than a limited measure expressing the Mauritanian Government's indignation at the memorandum distributed by the ambassador on a large scale in Nouakchott last Saturday, 19 August. It contained violent criticisms of Mauritania.

The sources described the Senegalese ambassador's memorandum as a leaflet containing sharp criticism of the government and the foreign minister, sometimes in a concealed way and at other times openly, by mixing the Senegalese Government statement with the words of the ambassador himself.

The sources said: The phrases used are unacceptable in diplomatic traditions, and once an ambassador loses the host state's confidence and respect, he must depart. That is something accepted internationally.

Furthermore, the same source said that when it declared the Senegalese ambassador persona non grata Mauritania was not thinking of severing diplomatic relations between the two countries. And when it decided to withdraw its ambassador from Dakar last May, it made no reference to the Senegalese ambassador's position. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Ambassador to Tehran Recalled for Consultations

NC2708183389 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Sudan decided today to recall its ambassador to Tehran for consultations in protest against an anti-Sudanese commentary broadcast by Iranian television. Sudanese Culture and Information Minister 'Ali Shammu stated that this Iranian comment constitutes interference in Sudan's internal affairs and is not based on sound logic.

Spokesman on Recall Move

AB2708183889 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 27 Aug 89

[From the "African News" program]

[Text] Sudan is recalling its ambassador to Iran in protest at a commentary on Iranian state-run television which allegedly accused the Sudanese Government of ambiguity toward implementing controversial Islamic shari'a laws. Sudan's information minister, Mr 'Ali Muhammad Shammu, said the commentary also alleged that the military coup which brought General al-Bashir's government to power in June was tacitly approved by the Western powers.

Speaking after today's Council of Ministers meeting in Khartoum, the minister said his government regarded the Iranian commentary as interference in Sudan's internal affairs. The Sudanese Government is currently engaged in peace negotiations with the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, who are demanding that shari'a law should not be applied in the largely Christian south of the country.

Further on Shammu Statement

EA2808105589 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Sudan has decided to recall its ambassador from Iran for consultation in protest against a commentary broadcast by official Iranian TV which described Sudan's orientation as ambiguous. 'Ali Shammu, minister of culture and information and the official government spokesman, said in a news statement today following a meeting of the Council of Ministers, that the Iranian commentary must be regarded as interference in Sudan's internal affairs and was not based on sound judgment.

He said that Sudan had never before interfered by passing judgment on the Iranian regime, nor did it permit its own news media to criticize practices in Iran. The minister added that the least we could do to express our stand was to recall the ambassador for consultation.

Mr Shammu pointed out that Iranian TV had attacked Arab and Western countries for supporting the revolution. He said Iranian TV had stated that the unequivocal support which the revolution had received from Egypt, from a number of Arab countries friendly to Egypt, and from some Western countries only reflected the orientation of the revolution and exposed the orientation of its leaders. The minister added that Iranian TV had referred to the silence of Western circles and had said that this was proof enough that the military coup d'etat in Sudan had been premeditated through the Western countries which gave their support after the coup d'etat was completed.

The minister said Iranian TV had claimed that Sudan's position was completely ambiguous and lacked clarity concerning the future of the application of Islamic laws, the problem of the south, and the economic and political situation.

Government Wants 'Direct' Channels to Rebels

EA2508201589 Khartoum SUNA in English 1610 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Khartoum, 25 August—The government will conduct a series of meetings with national and patriotic figures in both south and north Sudan with the view to reach clear stands on the relation between religion, politics, and Sudan's cultural identity. Member of the [Revolution] Command Council, Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, told the Army paper "AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAH" Friday, said the conclusions to be reached with those figures will be put for discussion with Garang's movement [sentence as received]. He said the government wants to open direct channels of communication with the rebel movement, and that the national

salvation revolution was seeking a radical and lasting solution for the south Sudan question.

Government Reportedly Proposes 3-Stage Plan

NC2508180689 Paris AFP in English 1503 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 25 (AFP)—Sudan's military junta has a three-stage plan to end the six-year civil war in the south, the armed forces paper AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH reported here Friday.

It was outlined by Colonel Muhammad al-Amin al-Khalifah of the of the ruling command council, who was delegation leader at last week's first direct talks with the rebel Sudanese People's Liberation Army [SPLA] in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

Following that inconclusive encounter, the military government would hold meetings with "national and patriotic figures" with the aim of reaching consensus on relations between religion and the state, Sudan's cultural identity and a suitable system of government, he said.

The junta had no objection to regional and international observers attending a conference called to find a final solution to the southern problem, Col. al-Khalifah noted, provided the rebels were agreeable.

He said the first part of the three-stage plan had been the preparatory talks in Ethiopia to "open direct channels of communication and eliminate mediators."

The second phase would "set aside all points of difference and review the real causes behind the surge of the rebellion" at a widened forum attended by the government, the SPLA and neutral national patriotic figures.

The third and last phase would be to "remove the land mines and rehabilitate the south" within the junta's guidelines for reform.

The SPLA has been fighting to free the largely Christian and animist black African south from domination by the predominantly Arab Moslem north. A key demand is that the strict Islamic laws (Shari'a) imposed countrywide in 1983 be scrapped.

Kuwait

Amir Departs for Official Visit to Egypt

LD2808093789 Kuwait KUNA in English 0800 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 28 (KUNA)—His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Al Sabah left home Monday for Egypt on an official three-day visit, at the invitation of President Husni Mubarak.

His highness the amir heads an official delegation, featuring State Minister of Cabinet Affairs Rashid al-Rashid, Finance Minister Jasim al-Kharafi, Kuwait's Ambassador in Cairo 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Qandari [name as received], Secretary of the Amiri Diwan Muhammad Darwish al-Aradi [name as received] and Director of His Highness the Amir's Office Ibrahim al-Shatti [name as received].

The delegation also includes Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shaheen [name as received], board chairman and director general of the KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY, chairman of the Kuwaiti Journalists Society, chief editors of local dailies and a media delegation.

Press Hails Visit

LD2808095289 Kuwait KUNA in English 0820 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 28 (KUNA)—Four local dailies Monday highlighted the visit by His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah to Egypt, the first since he became head of state in 1977.

In its editorial titled "Jabir and Mubarak," daily AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM affirmed that the amiri visit to Cairo opens a new chapter in relations between Kuwait and Egypt.

The paper said that the two Arab leaders will be tackling a number of crucial issues, topped by the Lebanese crisis and the Palestinian question.

It noted that his highness the amir and President Mubarak have identical views toward challenges facing the Arab nation.

Daily AL-ANBA' said, "His highness the amir's decision to visit Cairo is the natural materialisation for the natural feelings harbored in the heart of Jabir al-Ahmad toward Egypt, its people and its firm political leadership, which bears the great responsibility at this difficult time in the lives of Arabs."

The paper affirmed that the visit not only aims at strengthening ties between Cairo and Kuwait, but also between Egypt and the rest of the Arab world.

Daily AL-SIYASAH newspaper indicated that ties linking the two sisterly Arab states are regarded by Kuwaiti and Egyptian officials as an example to be followed by the rest of Arab countries.

"The new Kuwait-Egypt relations go deeper to link the interests of the two brotherly peoples, thus providing it more strength to withstand the future change of attitudes and problems," it underlined.

The paper also praised his highness the amir and described him as "a man of principles and not a professional politician who has no heart," pointing out his frankness in his dealings which sometimes was painful.

AL-SIYASAH said that his highness the amir follows a clear and well understood thinking, as he believes in a "balanced, integrated and cooperating world."

The paper said that His Highness Shaykh Jabir is well aware of Egypt's importance to economic integration and regional development.

Also commenting on the visit editorially is English-language daily KUWAIT TIMES, affirming that the visit is of special significance, as his highness the amir, chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and President Mubarak, chairman of the Organisation of African Unity will tackle a host of problems of interest to African and Arab people alike.

The two Arab leaders would be taking a closer look at the Palestinian and Lebanese problems, as they [words indistinct] Washington's support of Tel Aviv and Egypt's role as a good U.S. ally in impressing upon the Bush administration to break the impasse.

It said that Shaykh Jabir and President Mubarak will be discussing the Lebanese crisis and ways of resolving it, wishing them success toward this endeavor.

Editorial Cited on French Fleet Near Lebanon

LD2608094489 Kuwait KUNA in English 0812 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 26 (KUNA)—A local daily Saturday [26 August] cautioned that the French naval presence near Lebanese coasts could heat up the already explosive situation in that war-torn country, and pave the way for other Eastern and Western powers to send their fleets to the region.

Commenting editorially, AL-RA'Y AL-:AMM newspaper said that the Mediterranean basin might become as the Arabian Gulf was during the Iraq-Iran war.

It affirmed that the West, led by the U.S., is trying to turn the the whole Arab region into an even hotter spot to divert the world's attention from the 21-month-old intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territories.

The daily charged Washington with making little effort to realize "speedy and tangible" results in its dialogue with the PLO and escalating the situation in Lebanon to justify the Western military presence in that country.

"Amid that, the Arab side is in a state of dismay, abandoning the resolutions endorsed by the Casablanca

summit on seeking a solution to the Lebanese crisis," AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM underlined.

It stressed that Arabs must back efforts by the three-man committee toward a ceasefire in Lebanon, in order to stop any possible intervention by the big powers.

PDRY

'Arafat Arrives in Aden; To Meet Al-'Attas

JN2608092689 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0526 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Aden, Aug 26 (INA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Aden last night on a visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen lasting several days.

In a statement he gave later at the airport, 'Arafat said that he will hold talks with President Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas and other Yemeni officials on the latest developments in the Arab arena, Lebanon, and the Palestine question; particularly, the Palestinian intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territories.

The Palestinian president reaffirmed that the Palestinan-U.S. dialogue has not been fruitful as required, especially since the American side adopted the Israeli viewpoint and ignored the Palestinian peace plan and initiatives which the Arab nation approved at the Casablanca Arab summit.

'Arafat will join President al-'Attas in attending ceremonies celebrating the graduation of a new group of female Palestinian recruits in Aden.

Criticizes U.S. Position

EA2608170589 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, leader of the Palestinian state, arrived in Aden this afternoon for a visit to our country that will last several days. [passage omitted] At the VIP lounge in Aden International Airport, brother Yasir 'Arafat made a statement to Aden news agency. [passage omitted]

President 'Arafat explained that the American-Palestinian dialogue, and specifically the latest round, did not go as it should have. The American side adopted the Israeli viewpoint about Shamir's plan, ignoring the Palestinian plan and peace initiatives approved by the Arab nation at the Casablanca summit. He pointed out that the Arab summit had dwelt at length on the need for elections to be held under international supervision after the withdrawal of Israeli forces. These elections should form part of the peace process that is attracting attention in the region. This is also the viewpoint of the Palestinian revolution, the PLO, and the Palestinian people, he said.

Saudi Arabia

Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Jeddah 27 Aug

LD2708205289 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2035 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Jeddah 27 August 89, (SPA)—Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Jeddah at 2115 tonight for a visit to the Kingdom. King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, custodian of the two holy mosques, may God protect him, was at King 'Abd-al-'Aziz International Airport to welcome him. His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister, and commander of the National Guard, and His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister, and inspector general, were also there to welcome him. [passage omitted]

Yemen Arab Republic

'Arafat Makes Statement, Departs 25 Aug

JN2508185489 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, head of the state of Palestine and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, left Sanaa this afternoon following a 2-day visit to our country during which he met with brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat made a predeparture statement to SABA' news agency in which he said: I proudly state that the talks I held yesterday with brother struggler President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih were, as usual, important and had positive and constructive results, especially regarding the Palestine question and support for the intifadah [uprising]. I have thanked the brother president on behalf of the Palestinian people and strugglers and the intifadah for the constant brotherly stand of the northern part of Yemen alongside their brothers in the Palestinian homeland and the intifadah on all levels and through all means. I have briefed the brother president on the ongoing dangerous developments in the occupied homeland, especially iron-fisted policy and its escalation, as well as the daily escalating crimes committed by the Zionist occupation forces and the herds of armed Zionist colonialists against our children, women, old men, and Islamic and Christian holy places, in addition to the new crimes carried out within the process of starvation and the blockade imposed on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. We have also discussed the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue and the results and dimensions of this dialogue. We have also discussed the importance of reaching tangible results through this dialogue to boost efforts to convene an international conference to find a durable and comprehensive peace in the region

under which the Palestinian people would be able to achieve the objective of repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] indicated: The discussions also dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the importance of reaching a comprehensive cease-fire. As we previously indicated: One Palestine is enough [words indistinct]. What is going on in Lebanon must be a lesson for the entire Arab nation to comprehend and to exert all efforts to to halt bloodshed in this brotherly country and among this brotherly people.

He explained that the talks dealt with the ongoing plot in Lebanon, which is not aimed against the Lebanese people only, but also the Palestinian people. He said displacement of some Palestinian families has already begun at some areas. He indicated that the discussions dealt with the issue uniting our Arab delegation to the upcoming Nonaligned Movement summit to confront all these [words indistinct] developments at more than one level and direction.

Concluding his statement, Abu-'Ammar expressed thanks for our people and the officials for their brotherly principled stand alongside the strugglers in occupied Palestine.

Seeing him off were Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister and Standing Committee member; Ahmad Luqman, minister of social affairs and labor and Standing Committee member; Dr Muhammad Ahmad al-Kabab, minister of youth and sports and Standing Committee member; Muhsin al-Hamadhani, minister of muncipalities and housing; a representative for the presidency protocol, brother 'Abdallah Abu-al-Hunud, Palestinian charge d'affaires in Sanaa; and a number of Palestinian revolution officials.

'Arafat Visits Sanaa; Makes Statement 27 Aug

JN2708172289 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and commander in chief of the Palestine revolution forces, arrived in Sanaa this afternoon from Aden. He was accorded an official reception at Sanaa international airport. Receiving him were Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister and member of the Standing Committee; a number of brother officials; a representative of the presidency protocol; brother 'Abdallah Abu-al-Hannud, Palestinian charge d'affaires in Sanaa; Colonel Abu-Humayd, commander of Sabra Camp forces; and a number of the Palestinian revolution cadres.

Upon his arrival, brother Yasir 'Arafat made a statement to SABA' news agency. He said: I am always pleased and honored to visit Yemen and the northern part [of the homeland], especially after I attended the graduation ceremony of our cubs and flowers [Palestinian youth groups] in the southern part, which highlights the durability of the revolution.

Concluding, brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat expressed his gratitude for brother struggler Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, for the fraternal, committed, and principled support by the Yemen Arab Republic—president, government, and people—for our struggling Palestinian people.

Meets Prime Minister; Departs

JN2708202789 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member, this evening received brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. They reviewed Palestinian developments and the mounting popular revolution of the Palestinian masses in the occupied territories against the Zionist occupation. They also talked about Arab developments. Present at the talks were Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister and Standing Committee member; and Hani al-Hasan, Fatah's Central Committee member and 'Arafat's political adviser.

Meanwhile, brother struggler 'Arafat left Sanaa later in the evening.

In a predeparture statement to SABA', 'Arafat said his talks with the prime minister ranged over topical issues and escalating Israeli repression and oppression in the West Bank and Gaza. His talks, added the Palestinian leader, also touched on Lebanon and the need for summit-level Arab moves to tackle the country's crisis and for a revival of the work of the Arab tripartite committee. He also reiterated to the brother prime minister the Palestinian people's thanks for the supportive stand of the Yemeni president, government, and people toward their brothers the Palestinian strugglers.

Air Force Attacks Hizballah HQ in Lebanon

TA2708162289 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Air Force planes this evening attacked a terrorist target in the area of ('Ayn Abu-Swair) in the eastern sector of Lebanon. Our military affairs correspondent 'Amos Har'el reports that the target destroyed served as headquarters [HQ] of the Hizballah organization north of the security zone. All our planes returned safely to their base.

Spokesman Denies 2d Raid

TA2808085189 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0830 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] News agencies in Lebanon are reporting that the Air Force attacked Hizballah positions in the eastern al-Biqa' again today. According to the reports, this is the second time in 24 hours that the Air Force has attacked Hizballah positions in Lebanon. The reports said four fighter bombers dropped bombs on the village of Junta, some 70 km from Beirut, in an area under Syrian control where an important Hizballah base is situated.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman claims that the report is baseless.

Further on Possible Involvement in Colombian Drugs

'Pandora's Box' Threatened

TA2708155789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Reserves Lieutenant Colonel Ya'ir Klein, director of the Hod Hahanit [Spearhead] company, will be interrogated tomorrow afternoon at police General Investigation offices in Petah Tiqva. Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that immediately after the police's decision to launch an investigation into the matter was made public today, Klein's lawyer called Yehoshu'a Kaspi, head of the police Investigations Division, and expressed his client's desire to be interrogated as soon as tomorrow.

Lt Col Klein will be questioned about his part in the transfer and sale of military know-how to foreign elements in Colombia.

This afternoon Ya'ir Klein warned of the possibility of opening a Pandora's box, asserting that the Israeli Government is also involved in Colombia. Klein added that many senior army officers should be interrogated, including some currently serving in the Knesset.

In its session today the cabinet disassociated itself from the activities of individual Israelis in Colombia and their involvement with firms connected to the narcotics trade. Security elements informed the cabinet that over the past 3 years, no comprehensive permits to export arms have been issued to any Israelis, and any permits that are issued are examined on an ad hoc basis. They added that Hod Hahanit had been warned not to operate in Colombia, and now the police are investigating whether its directors acted against the law.

Cabinet Discusses Colombia

TA2708154489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Education Minister Yitzhaq Navon today demanded in the cabinet session that the government return all Israelis who illegally provide military training abroad. The government must put an end to the disgrace some Israelis cause to all of us. Here is a report by our political correspondent Natan Gutman:

[Begin recording] The weekly cabinet session dealt with the Colombia issue only briefly. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin briefly referred to the issue mainly because he was asked by other ministers to do so. Deputy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Navon said that the government must put an end to the disgrace caused by some Israelis. Defense Minister Rabin merely stated that the whole issue of the involvement of Israelis in Colombia is under investigation. Defense elements made clear at the meeting that since 1986 there has been a need to acquire a specific permit for any security activity by an Israeli body abroad. It was further made clear that the Hod Hahanit [Spearhead] company did not have such a permit, and has been warned not to operate in Colombia.

At the conclusion of the session, Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein said that the Israeli Government disassociates itself from any such activity. It was further stressed that Israel considers the struggle against the plague of international drugs a very important quest.

As for the situation in the territories, the defense minister explained that the feeling of a deadlocked political process leads to an escalation of the intifadah [uprising]. It was stressed that the masked men create a real legal problem. Minister Sciaki suggested that orders be issued to allow shooting at masked men if suspicions warrant. [end recording]

Finance Minister Shim'on Peres' draft law on streamlining bureaucracy was approved today in the cabinet by a large majority of 14 to 2. Sharp exchanges between the finance minister and some Likud ministers took place. Our economic correspondent Yaron Kulas reports:

[Begin recording] [Kulas] The debate on the draft law on slashing bureaucracy reopened the loud disagreement between the finance minister and Likud Ministers Moshe Nisim, Roni Milo, and Ehud Olmert. Only two ministers objected to the proposal: 'Ezer Weizman, who said that the true economic problem today is the intifadah; and Ecology and Environmental Protection Minister Roni Milo. [passage omitted]

Ten ministers abstained from voting. The plan was endorsed, however, by a large majority. The Knesset will convene to ratify the draft law early next week. [end recording]

Shamir Interviewed on Israeli Link

TA2708192989 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Yoram Ronen on 27 August in the Prime Minister's Office—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, the reports of Israelis being involved in the Colombian drug trade have already caused great damage to the State of Israel. What does the government intend to do to prevent the country's reputation from being sullied by people such as those who operated in Colombia?

[Shamir] I think that expressions such as reputations being sullied, or great damage, are somewhat exaggerated. It is not pleasant to learn that there are Israelis in the world who deal in things of this kind. Indeed there are. There are Israelis in various and diverse places throughout the world who deal in all kinds of things, and the State of Israel cannot be responsible for them. But there is perhaps something special in this matter. We are talking about people who have acquired security and military know-how, and we are obliged to do all we can to prevent this. We are doing what we must.

The matter has just been made public and it still remains to be seen whether our people were actually directly involved. If such involvement is discovered we must search for the best way—first of all the legal options, and maybe through other avenues—to prevent the recurrence of such phenomena. We are acting on the matter. The defense establishment is looking into it, the police are investigating, and the judicial system is also checking on how to stop such activities if they indeed took place.

[Ronen] But are you not worried by the image certain Israelis have gained, as mercenaries of various regimes?

[Shamir] Am I worried? I read in the papers that American, British, and South African citizens were among these mercenaries. There were probably other foreign nationals as well. So there were also Israelis. This must be stopped because we are very sensitive on this issue. I do not think there has been such a brouhaha or such repercussions on this matter in other places in the world, but we will do everything necessary and all that is possible—because not everything is possible—to ensure that these actions will not be repeated. And if we cannot stop them completely, we will try to reduce them to a minimum. [passage omitted]

Shamir: No Request From Colombia

TA2808113689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] The prime minister has said that Colombia has still not asked Israel to investigate Israeli involvement in the training of drug smugglers.

Our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen reports that following a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committees on the affair, Mr Shamir said that there has been no real evidence yet that Israelis did anything to shame the country. He expressed surprise that some people make public accusations and name names without any real evidence to back these claims.

The prime minister asked that the police be given free rein to uncover the truth, and he asked for restraint when people's names, especially those of former army officers, are mentioned.

Ya'ir Klein presented himself at the Petah Tiqva police station at noon to be questioned by the Investigations Division. He told our correspondent Alon Ben-David that he does not intend to divulge the names of other officers, including a Knesset member, who were involved in selling military know-how abroad because the names are already known.

4 Uprising Leaders Deported; 5th Awaiting Plane

TA2708144289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Four residents of Judaea and Samaria were deported to Lebanon this afternoon. Taysir al-'Aruri, the fifth deportee, will be put on a plane leaving for France in a short while.

The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reports that the four men were deported only after all possible legal measures applicable to them had been exhausted, and after the High Court of Justice rejected their appeals. The four had taken part in leading and directing the uprising in Judaea and Samaria.

Airport 'Disturbance' Noted

TA2708193589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] There was a disturbance at Ben-Gurion Airport this afternoon when Taysir al-'Aruri, a lecturer from Bi'r Zayt University, was deported to France. Our correspondent Alon Ben-David reports that members of Al-'Aruri's family attempted to prevent policemen from putting him on the plane. The police dispersed the family and arrested Al-'Aruri's wife for interrogation.

Another four residents of Judaea and Samaria were deported from Israel to Lebanon this afternoon. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman reported that they were active in leading the uprising in Judaea and Samaria.

Egypt Condemns Deportations

TA2708113389 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Aug 89 p 3

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent]

[Excerpt] Yesterday Egypt denounced the deportation of four uprising leaders. Butrus Ghali, the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, relayed the condemnation through the Israeli ambassador in Cairo, Shim'on Shamir. He emphasized that "the Israeli acts of oppression, in particular the deportation of Palestinian leaders, constitute a violation of human rights and stand in contravention of international law and the Geneva Convention." [passage omitted]

Officials Astonished at Egypt's Call to USSR

TA2708055689 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] Reports about Egypt's appeal to the Soviet Union not to restore relations with Israel were received with astonishment in Jerusalem.

According to the reports, the Soviet ambassador in Egypt was summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Cairo. To the Soviets' surprise, the Egyptians protested the USSR's tendency to thaw relations with Israel. The Soviet ambassador expressed surprise at the Egyptian request and asked what this meant since Egypt itself established relations with Israel. The Egyptian representative responded that Egypt did not have any choice in forming ties, but the Soviets do. Resumption of relations with Israel would harm the Arab boycott, the Egyptians said.

The reports about the Egyptian appeal to the USSR were confirmed by the Prime Minister's Office. Astonishment was expressed that Egypt not only does not encourage resumption of relations with Israel, but in fact operates in the opposite direction. Jerusalem considered a response, but was worried that Egypt would view such a move as intervention in its internal affairs.

Arens Returns From Trip to Kenya 27 Aug

TA2708111189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Kenya's foreign minister will soon be coming to Israel. During his visit a date will be fixed for Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi's official visit, Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said on his return from Kenya.

In reply to a question, Mr Arens said that before he can make a comment he must study the reports from Cairo that Egypt asked the USSR not to rush in restoring diplomatic relations with Israel. From the airport the minister left immediately for Jerusalem in order to participate in the cabinet meeting.

More on Kenya Visit

TA2708100189 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Aug 89

[Report by the diplomatic correspondent and agencies]

[Text] Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi promised Foreign Minister Moshe Arens on Friday [25 August] that he will try to persuade other African countries to renew full diplomatic ties with Jerusalem, Foreign Ministry sources said.

Arens told the Kenyan leader that Israel has great respect for the courage he showed in renewing full bilateral diplomatic relations earlier this year.

"Kenya is an important country in Africa. We expect that other countries will follow suit," Arens said. Since black Africa's break in relations with Israel in 1973, Zaire, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Togo and the Central African Republic have also restored ties.

Arens met Moi in the southern Kenyan town of Nakuru, shortly after arriving in the capital city of Nairobi. Arens, who is slated to return here this morning, conveyed President Herzog's invitation to visit Israel, which Moi accepted in principle.

Arens signed a cooperation agreement with Kenya, which a Kenyan Foreign Ministry official described as "all-embracing, more or less what we used to have before we broke diplomatic relations in 1973." He said the pact calls for Israeli assistance in water and soil conservation, and desert reclamation.

Arens also presented the government's peace initiative, and said Moi could make a significant contribution to the peace process because of his excellent ties with Arab leaders.

The state-owned Voice of Kenya radio station quoted the president as saying the Middle East conflict would end "when all parties involved realise they need not be led by hatred."

Israeli military analysts say Kenya received surface-to-surface missiles from Israel last year. Some Kenyan Navy ships have been armed with Israeli-made surface-to-surface Gabriel missiles for years.

During the 16 years in which no official relations existed between the two countries, Kenya's commercial links with Israel continued and about 1,000 Israelis carried on business as usual in the East African nation. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0405 GMT on 26 Aug adds that "Kenyan Foreign Minister Robert Ouko referred to Israel and Kenya as two sister countries." Ouko reportedly said "Israeli-Kenyan relations never stopped even after they were formally severed in 1973, and were restored in December 1988."]

Officials Note French Attempt To 'Mend Fences'

TA2808084589 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 28 Aug 89 p 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent Menahem Shalev]

[Text] France has indicated that it wishes to improve its relationship with Israel, following the recent deterioration in ties between the two countries since Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Paris earlier this year.

Ambassador to France 'Ovadya Sofer has reported to the Ministry, following talks with senior French officials, that Paris intends to renew its request for a visit here in the near future by Foreign Minister Roland Dumas.

The officials also raised the possibility that Foreign Minister Arens might make a second visit to Paris.

But in a separate report that reached the Foreign Ministry from Paris, a senior French Foreign Ministry official is quoted as saying that the Israeli peace initiative is "insufficient." The official described the recent Fatah conference decisions as a victory for 'Arafat's "moderate" wing. He also expressed the European Community's continued support for convening an international peace conference.

[In a report by Ilan Bakhar on page 2 of Section A, Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 28 August notes that "political sources in Jerusalem last night welcomed the U.S. rejection of the French proposal to launch preparations for a meeting of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to discuss the political process in the Middle East. The proposal, which was relayed to the United States last week, was categorically rejected, and officials in Jerusalem hope that France and other EC countries will thus cease coming up with initiatives that are incompatible with U.S. policy."]

Officials in Jerusalem said yesterday that Israel is also eager to get relations with Paris back on track. They noted that France's current chairmanship of the EC is probably a prime factor in Paris's wish to mend fences.

Dumas had originally sent out feelers about a possible visit here several weeks before the meeting between 'Arafat and Mitterrand in May. Although Jerusalem did not flatly reject the offer, its cool response was taken in Paris as an outright snub.

Relations deteriorated after the Mitterrand-'Arafat meeting because of what was seen in Paris as Israeli involvement in drumming up the vocal opposition of French Jewry to the meeting, as well as harsh attacks on Mitterand from Jerusalem. These included an allusion made by Arens that the efforts to court the PLO chairman were reminiscent of Western appeasement of the Nazis.

Security Service Commended in Solving Kidnapping

TA2708110389 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Aug 89 p 1

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "The High Skill of the Shin Bet"]

[Excerpts] The excellent and rapid intelligence job done by the Shin Bet, and the immediate transfer of the obtained information to the troops in the field, were the factors that brought about the happy ending of the first kidnapping of an Israeli national in the territories, even before the kidnappers, whose names are known, submitted their demands for his release. The investigation of the case showed that the abduction was preplanned by an intifadah [uprising] strike force in Tulkarm.

The success is particularly striking in view of the fact that the man was alive when the rescue team reached him. The swiftness of operation, made possible by the intelligence gathered, is reflected in the fact that although Mish'aniyah's disappearance became known only on Wednesday night, as early as Thursday morning a raid was carried out in Kafr 'Abbush, where the man was found 24 hours later, at 1015 on Friday morning.

In recent months the Shin Bet has displayed a high professional ability enabling it to quickly apprehend criminals who have perpetrated grave offenses in the service of the intifadah. Among its successes have been the speedy discovery of the murderers of Steve Rosenfeld from Ari'el; the discovery of Chris George's kidnappers; and the exposure of Shabi' Darwish. (In the process of detention and subsequent escape attempts, the latter two were killed.) Darwish, from the village of Idnah, was responsible for numerous assassinations. Yesterday the Shin Bet was congratulated by Prime Minister Shamir and Defense Minister Rabin for its successful operations. [passage omitted]

Mish'aniyah's regular visits in Tulkarm allowed his kidnappers to plan the operation. As for the kidnappers' intentions, they apparently did not mean to kill their hostage at this stage, as can be seen from the fact that the man received food and drink. In the second stage the kidnappers presumably intended to submit demands for his release. Although Mish'aniyah did not work in an area where special entry permits are required, and although every Israeli has a right to do the same, it will be noted that Mish'aniyah had been warned several times—by Jews as well as Arabs—that he was risking his life.

Shomron on Deportations, Upsurge in Violence

TA2708115289 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1130 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, chief of the general staff, has said that deportations will continue in the future. He believes that although in the short run they cause a brouhaha, in the long run they are effective.

The chief of staff told our correspondent in the territories 'Ido Shargil that he believes that the recent upsurge in violence in the territories is the result of the Fatah convention and the PLO demand for the Arab population to escalate the violence. Such an escalation is attained by the extremists through terror acts that are limited in scope, but are difficult to cope with nonetheless.

Erez Meets W. Bank Notables in Series of Talks

TA2708160389 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Brigadier General Shay Erez, head of the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria, today conferred with 10 notables from Nabulus for a discussion of political issues.

Last weekend Matan Vilna'i, commander of the Southern Command, conferred with Gaza notables and discussed similar issues with them.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that participants in the meeting discussed the Israeli peace initiative and the elections in the territories at great length. Among the figures Gen Erez met were Hasan Abu-Ghazalah, who is identified with the PLO mainstream; and Shaykh Sa'id Bilal, who is affiliated with the Nabulus Hamas [Islamic Resistance] Movement. Our correspondent has learned that the head of the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria has been holding long discussions on the political initiative with figures in Judaea and Samaria. Similar meetings with notables from the territories took place in Hebron and Tulkarm in an attempt to revive the dialogue on the initiative.

Vilna'i Confers With 3 Gaza Notables 26 Aug

TA2608192189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Major General Matan Vilna'i, commander of the Southern Command, conferred with three notables from the Gaza Strip this weekend. The three are As'ad Saftawi, who presented his peace plan to the defense minister; Mansur al-Shawwa, chairman of the Gaza Benevolent Society; and Samir 'Aziza, mayor of Dayr al-Balah. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the three briefed the general on their political opinions, and remarked on the social situation in the Gaza Strip.

Indifference to Measures in Territories Decried

TA2408183389 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 24 Aug 89 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The Escalation of Israeli Measures Is Met With Arab Preoccupation and U.S. Bias"]

[Text] Two days ago HA'ARETZ newspaper wrote that the military security apparatus has made an initial decision to adopt new steps to increase surveillance and control of the entry of occupied territories' residents into Israel. This clearly indicates the launching of a new campaign to confront the Palestinian people. These are also new manifestations of the Shamir-Rabin policy that refuses to deal with the facts and the recent political developments.

This new-old Israeli approach was tested in the Gaza Strip and did not yield any results. General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, who has taken over the Central Command, worked in the Southern Command since the outbreak of the intifadah [uprising] and was responsible for the Gaza Strip. The change of personalities is not the problem. The problem lies in finding a formula for a political settlement. This has been stated by Mordekhay, and by 'Amram Mitzna' before him.

The new policy being pursued by Mordekhay—from an intensive campaign on the economic level, to the pursuit of merchants who refuse to pay taxes, and the introduction of magnetic identity cards for all those who work in Israel—was tested in the Gaza Strip, and failed to achieve any results.

Let us return to the question of political plans and the exit from the impasse into which Israel has driven itself. This impasse came about because Israel rejects the principle of giving up land in exchange for peace. Shamir's proposal on holding elections completely ignores Palestinian aspirations. The elections plan views the Palestinian people as a group of Palestinians living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip who do not possess any rights of sovereignty over this land, but only some civil rights.

What the Palestinian leadership is facing is not only Israeli intransigence, but U.S. support for Shamir's plan, and the attempt by the United States to impose this plan on the Palestinians as the only plan that constitutes a starting point for moving the process forward.

The decision by the United States to support Yitzhaq Shamir should not surprise any clear-sighted person. Washington has explained many times that it will not pressure Israel into accepting anything that it deems to be against its interests. Therefore, there is no hope that the United States will adopt a balanced stance toward the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Furthermore, our hope that the United States would act to curb the Israeli campaign in the occupied territories has dissipated. Thus we are right back where we started. The Arab nation is preoccupied with internal matters and conflicts, and support for the Palestinian people in the occupied territories is not compatible with the economic constraints imposed by Israel on the residents of these territories.

Hence the need for a more effective Arab and international action toward what is taking place in the occupied territories; toward Israeli intransigence; and finally toward the total U.S. support for Israel's policies, and the Israeli and U.S. attempt to waste any opportunity for achieving a just settlement in the region.

Youth Killed in 26 Aug Clash With IDF

TA2608185689 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Excerpts] A 17-year-old youth from the village of Dayr al-Sudan near Ramallah was shot and killed during a clash with soldiers today. Military sources reported that the incident occurred when an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol was attacked with a barrage of rocks in the village. An officer in the patrol was forced to shoot, thus wounding one of the assailants. The wounded youth later died in the hospital. [passage omitted]

Unidentified assailants last night set fire to four houses and a grocery store in the village of Idnah in the Hebron Hills. These arsons were probably carried out against the backdrop of suspected collaboration with Israel. The IDF imposed a curfew on the village and detained several locals. [passage omitted]

Progress has been made in the investigation of Sha'ul Mish'aniyah's kidnapping. Our correspondent Victor Nahmias has learned that most of the participants in the kidnapping have been detained. The hunt for the others is still under way. The major suspect in the case is from the village of 'Abud, where Mish'aniyah was found. This suspect is an uprising activist and has been wanted by the security forces for a long time.

Two firebombs were thrown this afternoon at a Border Police squad guarding Minister Ari'el Sharon's residence in the Old City of East Jerusalem. The firebombs did not ignite and no one was hurt. [passage omitted]

More on 26 Aug Incidents

TA2608162489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] The body of a man in his twenties was found in Qalqilyah this morning. Samaria police believe that murder with a criminal background is involved.

A local resident was slightly wounded by IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldiers' fire during disturbances in Dayr al-Balah in the Gaza Strip this morning.

Security forces this morning imposed a curfew on the Jabalyah refugee camp after one of a group of masked youths who attacked an IDF patrol was shot and severely wounded last night. He was hospitalized in Tel Hashomer.

Further on 25, 26 Aug Unrest

TA2708101189 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Aug 89 p 8

[Report by Joel Greenberg and Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpts] A Palestinian accused of cooperating with the Israeli authorities was killed and strung from an electricity pole in Qalqilyah yesterday.

At the village of Dayr al-Sudan near Ramallah, troops shot and killed a teenager during a stone-throwing clash. [passage omitted]

Palestinians reported riots yesterday at the Junayd prison near Nabulus, set off by an altercation between a prisoner and a guard. Guards used tear gas and fired shots to quell the unrest, according to the reports. [passage omitted]

In clashes at al-Tall near Tulkarm, a 14-year-old was wounded, according to local reports.

The recently approved regulation allowing troops to shoot at masked people resulted in a Palestinian being seriously wounded in Jabalyah on Friday. He is not expected to survive.

Palestinian sources said that 'Ali Muhammad Sha'aban, 22, had been from door to door with other Gazans, collecting magnetic ID cards from residents of his neighbourhood. They were surprised by a military patrol that opened fire at them. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 27 August, in a page eight report by Mikhal Qedem, adds: "Over the weekend, the security forces raided the Khan Yunus home of a strike committee member, where they discovered hundreds of magnetic identity cards confiscated from Gaza workers by masked individuals. The Unified Command of the Uprising allows Gazans wishing to enter Israel to use the confiscated magnetic cards as exit permits from the Strip."]

In other clashes in the Strip during the weekend, troops shot and wounded seven Palestinians and three yesterday. [sentence as published]

Graffiti signed by the "Unified Leadership of the Uprising" called on Gazans to stay at home after 6:30 in the evening. Palestinians told THE JERUSALEM POST that this request is a result of IDF soldiers driving around in confiscated Palestinian cars.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 26 Aug reports that "the curfew imposed on Ramallah's Falastin Street 2 weeks ago, after two firebombs were hurled at a vehicle in which Civil Administration tax collectors were traveling, was lifted." Two of the four casualties are still hospitalized in a serious condition. Most of the street's shops were reopened today.]

Bayt Safafa Resident Dies of Wounds 27 Aug

TA2808043989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Excerpts] A 20-year-old resident of the village of Bayt Safafa on the southern edge of Jerusalem was killed last night when police dispersed violent disturbances that had broken out in the village. A Voice of Israel reporter says that earlier, dozens of youths had rioted in the village, which straddles the old border and currently divides southern Jerusalem from the new southern

suburb of Gilo. What sparked the violence is not yet clear. Bassam Khalid Salman was wounded during the rioting, and died of his wounds at East Jerusalem's al-Maqasid Hospital. Family members later snatched the body. Police arrested two people suspected of involvement in the rioting. [passage omitted]

Three petrol bombs were thrown at Israeli soldiers in the Gaza Strip yesterday. Nobody was hurt; no damage was caused.

Fourteen Gaza residents were detained after a Molotov cocktail was thrown at an army observation point at Falastin Square in Gaza City. Petrol bombs were also thrown at soldiers patrolling the money changers market in the city and in the Jabalyah refugee camp.

Jabalyah Youth Dies of Wounds

TA2808102889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Muhammad Sha'ban, 20, of the Jabalyah refugee camp, died last night at Tel Hashomer Hospital of wounds sustained on Friday. He, together with other masked men, incited local inhabitants. An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol chased them, and when they did not heed a call to halt, the soldiers fired at them, hitting the youth.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 1000 GMT on 28 August adds: "Arab merchants in Judaea and Samaria closed their shops today in protest of Israel's expulsion of five suspected leaders of the Palestinian uprising. Arabs in Ramallah, Nabulus, and Tulkarm closed shops, and many pupils left classrooms to join the strike. Stores in East Jerusalem, Hebron, and Bethlehem remained open."]

Further on 27 Aug Unrest

TA2808090589 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 28 Aug 89 p 3

[Report by Ayelet Mazor, Uri'el Ben-'Ami, and ITIM]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Eighteen inhabitants of the territories were wounded yesterday in clashes with IDF [Israel Defense Forces] troops, and two children were injured when a suspicious object exploded. [passage omitted]

There were minor disturbances yesterday at various locations in the Gaza Strip. Hospitals in the area reported 14 people with gunshot injuries checking in for treatment, 2 of them with moderate wounds and the rest with light wounds. The IDF is looking into the matter.

Early yesterday morning the IDF lifted the curfew on Rafah and the Jabalyah refugee camp, and the entire Gaza Strip reopened to free movement. Nevertheless, only a small number of laborers left for work in Israel, in response to the measures declared by the leaders of the uprising to protest the fact that only those holding magnetic identity cards are allowed to cross into Israel. [passage omitted]

The military court in Gaza sentenced 17-year-old Baha' al-Kafarna from Bayt Hanun to 13 months in prison and gave her a 14-month suspended sentence after convicting her of attacking an IDF officer with a commando knife. [passage omitted]

Four inhabitants of Tulkarm were wounded in clashes with soldiers yesterday. One of them, 13-year-old Muntasar Darwish Samah, was seriously wounded in the neck by a bullet and was taken to the hospital in Ramallah.

Two children were wounded when a suspicious object blew up in their faces in Kafr Ni'mah, in the Ramallah area.

A curfew was clamped on 'Ayn 'Arik in the Ramallah area after villagers pelted a car driven by settlers with stones. The IDF continued to conduct dozens of arrests in various villages in the West Bank yesterday. [passage omitted]

[In a pool report on page 7, Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 28 August adds: "Arab sources reported serious clashes between local residents and collaborators. According to these sources, collaborators set ablaze the house of a wanted man, 16-year-old Ziyad Farsini, in the village of Ya'bad. Attorney Usamah al-Hilani recounted yesterday that about 40 armed collaborators in the Janin area opened fire at his car as he was driving through Qabatiyah."]

Jordan

USSR's Tarasov Visits, Meets Senior Officials

Commends Bilateral Relations

JN2708120689 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] The Soviet assistant foreign minister, Mr Gennadiy Tarasov, arrived in Amman from Damascus today on a brief visit to Jordan.

Speaking on his arrival via al-Ramtha, Mr Tarasov said his visit was within consultations between the two countries about the various issues related to the Middle East and ways to bring about peace in the region.

He commended relations between the Soviet Union and Jordan. He said he would discuss with Jordanian officials a number of issues of bilateral concern, and Moscow's role to achieve stability in the region.

He said he would also discuss Lebanon, and called for intensive efforts to solve the crisis in that country through national reconciliation.

Mr Tarasov hopes the Arab League committee on Lebanon would resume its efforts to bring peace to Lebanon, and added that his moves were in the framework of the Casablanca Arab summit.

Al-Qasim Praises 'Soviet Support'

JN2708204289 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Amman—Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met this evening with the Soviet envoy Gennadiy Tarasov, who briefed the minister on the outcome of his talks in Damascus and Beirut. Al-Qasim expressed Jordan's appreciation of the Soviet support for Arab causes, especially the Soviet stand on the Lebanese crisis and the need for ending this crisis through support for the common Arab stand, which backs the mission of the higher tripartite Arab committee.

Al-Qasim also praised the constant Soviet support for the Palestine question and announced Jordan's backing of the efforts being exerted by the Palestinian leadership on the international scene with a view to securing the national rights of the Palestinian people through participation in the peace process. He stressed that the PLO, by accepting Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, has decisively proved the soundness and sincerity of its inclination toward a comprehensive peace in the region. The positive pan-Arab stand should be responded to, and international efforts toward convening the international peace conference should be exerted, he said.

Assesses Talks, Departs 27 Aug

JN2808084889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Gennadiy Tarasov, USSR foreign minister for Near East affairs, and his delegation left Amman yesterday after paying a short visit to Jordan. During the visit Tarasov held talks with Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister dealing with various issues of concern to the region, especially the situation in Lebanon.

In a statement, Tarasov said his talks in Jordan were fruitful and successful and dealt with all aspects of the situation in the region, especially in Lebanon. He affirmed that the Jordanian and Soviet stands are aimed at pooling efforts to find a political settlement of the Lebanese situation via Arab efforts with emphasis on the work of the tripartite Arab committee to solve the Lebanese crisis.

Tarasov described his talks with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' as positive and fruitful. He said that the USSR and Syria favor the reactivation of the tripartite Arab committee on the basis of the Casablanca summit resolutions. He spoke about the importance of continuing political efforts to solve the Lebanese question. Tarasov praised the distinguished relations between Jordan and the USSR in the various fields.

Syria's Al-Shar' Arrives for Talks With Leaders

Al-Shar' Brings Al-Asad Message

JN2608113289 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' arrived in Amman today on a 2-day visit to Jordan during which he will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from His Excellency Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Al-Shar' was received at Amman airport by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; senior Foreign Ministry officials; and the Syrian ambassador in Amman.

Meets With Ibn-Shakir

JN2708182589 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd Ibn-Shakir has met once again with visiting Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' immediately following the prime minister's return from a brief visit to Cairo in the company of King Husayn.

At a news conference he held before leaving Amman, Al-Shar' asserted that his talks with the Jordanian officials centered on how the Tripartite Committee should start its work in order to implement the Casablanca

Summit resolution which, according to Al-Shar', is a complete and comprehensive working formula to solve the Lebanese problem. Al-Shar' expressed his country's conviction that the stalemate which the committee reached had nothing to do with Syria. He noted that Syria responded to the committee report and clarified its stand.

Al-Shar' denied that the Tripartite Committee blamed Syria for the committee's failure to solve the Lebanese crisis, affirming that the committee's report did not indicate that Syria was the obstacle but included certain issues and steps that the committee had taken and the answers it obtained.

Al-Shar' said that the Lebanese nationalist forces were of the view that the committee, for one reason or another, departed from the letter and spirit of the Casablanca Summit resolution on Lebanon.

Concluding, Al-Shar' described his Amman talks by stating that it was difficult to say that there was complete agreement but he felt a good Jordanian understanding of the Syrian position and role in Lebanon.

For his part and after bidding farewell to Al-Shar', Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim noted the lack of identity of views but emphasized that the visit gave Jordan the opportunity to voice its views on the Lebanese crisis. Al-Qasim stressed his country's perfectly clear stand represented by supporting the comprehensive Arab solution as stipulated in the Casablanca summit. He affirmed that the Tripartite Committee work is not merely mediation. He said the committee was fully authorized to end the Lebanese crisis, indicating that Jordan supports the committee to allow it to overcome the obstacles that have been placed on its path.

Concluding, Al-Qasim expressed the hope that Jordan will play its role within the next few days with the aim of contributing to a unified Arab stand to deal with the Lebanese issue. He affirmed that Syria is a partner and has a primary role to play in assisting the Tripartite Committee to overcome the obstacles that hindered its work.

Holds News Conference

JN2708181489 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has expressed satisfaction over the talks he held in Amman, particularly his meeting with King Husayn, where he conveyed to the Jordanian monarch a message from President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with Arab situations and developments on the Lebanese arena.

This came during the press conference the foreign minister held in Amman this afternoon which was attended by a large number of Arab and foreign news agency correspondents.

Answering a question on whether or not Syria has certain conditions for the Arab Tripartite Committee to resume its mission, Al-Shar' said: Syria has no conditions except to implement the Casablanca Summit resolution on Lebanon in full since it constitutes a complete plan to resolve the Lebanese crisis. Syria, which made great sacrifices to help the brothers in Lebanon, is still prepared to give every assistance to achieve the national reconciliation and political reforms, and it is concerned for Lebanon's unity and Arabism.

Answering a question on the treatment of the security aspect in Lebanon, Al-Shar' said: A mechanism for a cease-fire must be found to make security firm and comprehensive—including opening the crossing points, lifting sieges, and preventing weapons from reaching both sides.

Answering a question on Syria's position on the program for political reforms in Lebanon presented by the Tripartite Committee, Al-Shar' said: From the beginning, we told the Tripartite Committee that this is a Lebanese issue and the Lebanese must agree among themselves on political and constitutional reforms. In view of its historic relations with Lebanon, Syria can help the Lebanese achieve national reconciliation among them.

The foreign minister was asked about the role that Jordan can play toward solving the Lebanese crisis. He said: Jordan is a fraternal country which is close to the crisis and is concerned about it. Therefore, its positive and negative aspects affect it.

Regarding the PLO's relations with Syria, Faruq al-Shar' said: Relations with the PLO are not impossible, because nothing is impossible for the person who works for a cause.

Further on News Conference

JN2808065289 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 28 Aug 89 p 1

[By Nirmin Murad, staff reporter]

[Text] Amman—Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' Sunday denied his country had placed hurdles in the way of Arab League efforts to end the Lebanese problem and blamed Army Commander Michel 'Awn for the escalation of the civil war in Lebanon.

A few hours before ending a two-day official visit to Jordan, Al-Shar' also said his country remained totally committed to resolutions on Lebanon adopted by the Casablanca Arab summit held in May and that Damascus was willing to cooperate with a tripartite Arab Committee mandated by the summit to end the Lebanese strife.

However, he said, "the main burden of ending the conflict should be shouldered by the Lebanese themselves. There cannot be an end to the conflict as long as there is no national reconciliation based on equality for all Lebanese."

Assailing 'Awn, who is vying with a Syrian-supported civilian government in Lebanon, Al-Shar' said: "The civil war in Lebanon was dormant for a long period of time and only flared up again when 'Awn took his position illegally and started posing slogans which were strange to the Lebanese people."

At a press conference held at the Syrian ambassador's residence, Al-Shar' said the tripartite Arab Committee—comprising Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Algeria—which said its efforts had reached a dead end earlier this month had not named Syria as the "stumbling block."

The Syrian foreign minister, who arrived here Saturday and was received by His Majesty King Husayn, Prime Minister Al-Sharif Zayd Ibn-Shakir, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim later in the day, described his talks here as "satisfactory, friendly and the results were positive which should reflect positively on the brotherly relations between the two countries."

During his meetings, Al-Shar' said, "developments on the Lebanese front were discussed in detail, particularly that the tripartite committee has reported that efforts had reached a dead end."

"We stressed during our talks that this situation had nothing to do with Syria and that we had answered the report of the committee and explained in our reply our position," Al-Shar' said.

"Syria will continue to extend all the help it could to implement the Casablanca resolutions in their entirety without ignoring any of their details ... without any preconditions," Al-Shar' said. The resolutions call for a negotiated settlement to the Lebanese conflict based on political reforms, and gave the committee six months to accomplish its mission.

Al-Shar' said that his talks here did not cover the Iraqi call for an Arab summit on Lebanon. However, he implied that his country was not in favour of a summit by reaffirming that Damascus viewed the resolutions adopted in Casablanca offered a "comprehensive and just solution" to the Lebanese problem.

Asked whether the Soviet Union was involved in any serious effort to bring peace to Lebanon, the minister said "every effort is welcome, but the main burden should be shouldered by the Lebanese factions themselves."

Asked what the Syrian position was on the French naval build-up in the eastern Mediterranean off the Lebanese coast, Al-Shar' said: "I think there have been many statements by different Lebanese parties who responded to the French move and I think this was sufficient."

Skirting a direct question whether Syrian supported such statements, which included threats against France by pro-Iranian factions, Al-Shar' described as "positive" a "reconsideration by the French of their move." He was apparently referring to an announcement by the French government Sunday that the last French warship was pulling out of its position off the Lebanese coast.

Answering another question, Al-Shar' said; "there has been a will (on the French side) to continue dialogue with Syria and we believe that through dialogue all sides can understand the positions and reasons behind actions, motives of the other side."

Al-Shar' said his country saw Syrian-Palestinian ties on two levels—with the Palestinian people on the one hand and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

"We believe that the Palestinian issue should remain a national and centralised issue of importance to all Arab countries and it is sad that there were certain attempts lately to break the ties between Arab countries under the slogan of independent national decision."

"The relationship is not impossible," he said. "Whoever works for a cause cannot consider anything impossible. We in Syria work on directing and encouraging all Palestinian factions towards unity because unity is the main aim of the struggling Plestinian people who are paying with tens of victims in the intifadah [uprising] every day."

Syria is at odds with the leadership of the PLO. Several dissident PLO factions are based in Damascus.

According to Al-Shar', Israel failed to achieve its objectives in abducting pro-Iranian Shiite cleric Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd from South Lebanon June 28. He said Israel had sought to convince the U.S. that the abduction of 'Ubayd, a spiritual leader of Hizballah, would help efforts to free American and other Western hostages in Lebanon. "But," he said, "the Americans did not condone the abduction since it was an act of terrorism; and 'Ubayd is a man of religion."

Al-Shar' said Syrian-Egyptian relations "were good and moving towards the better."

Ministers' Talks Noted

JN2808083589 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said: Jordan's position on the Lebanese crisis is clear. It has supported the Arab solution arising from the Casablanca Arab summit, which led to the formation of the Higher Arab Triparite committee composed of the King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, His Majesty King Hassan II, and His Excellency Chadli Bendjedid.

In a statement to reporters last night, Al-Qasim welcomed Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's visit which, he said, provided an opportunity to discuss issues of common concern, especially the Lebanese crisis. He added that the opportunity provided by the tripartite

committee on Lebanon must not fail, and that we must all support and help it to achieve its mission.

Al-Qasim continued: Jordan believes in the need to remove the obstacles facing the Higher Arab Tripartite Committee so as to enable its three leaders to consider resuming the committee's good offices. He added: Based on our conviction of the importance of Syria's central role in facilitating the committee's mission, it is hoped that fraternal Syria will help remove the obstacles which faced the committee previously. He said: Jordan believes that the committee's mission is too comprehensive to require mediation or followup since the committee has been fully authorized by the Casablanca summit to achieve the Arab solution to the Lebanese crisis. He further said: Talks concerning an international effort to solve the Lebanese crisis must be preceded by talks on a unified Arab position on the Lebanese crisis.

Al-Qasim expressed the hope that the next stage will witness an intensified Arab effort and collective Arab action leading to a single Arab position on the Lebanese crisis to restore Lebanon to normal life and allow it to establish sovereignty over all of its territory for the sake of pan-Arab security.

King Leaves for Cairo, Talks With Mubarak

JN2708092889 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn left Amman this morning for Cairo on a 1-day working visit during which he will meet his brother His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. The talks of the two leaders will deal with the current Arab cause, particularly the Palestine question, the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC], and the stages it has passed through toward cooperation and coordination amongst the member countries. Discussions will also take place on a number of political issues.

His majesty was seen off at the airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; his highness the chief chamberlain; deputy prime minister and minister of interior; deputy prime minister and minister of state for economic affairs; chief of the general staff; a number of ranking civilian and military officials; and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

His majesty is accompanied by his excellency the prime minister, chief of Royal Hashemite Court, his majesty's personal adviser, and his majesty's political adviser.

Crown Prince, Delegation To Visit U.S. 'Soon'

JN2608122089 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 24 Aug 89 p 1

[Text] Amman—AL-BAYAN has learned that a high-level Jordanian delegation under Crown Prince Hasan and including Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will visit Washington soon.

Reliable sources told AL-BAYAN that the Husayn-'Arafat talks that were held in Amman over the past 2 days resulted in the idea of forming this Jordanian delegation which will seek to meet with senior U.S. officials and will deliver a message from the Jordanian monarch to U.S. President George Bush.

The sources added that the purpose of the delegation's visit is to advance the peace process in the Middle East after the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue reached a dead end.

Israeli Warplanes Raid Iqlim Villages 27 Aug

NC2708191689 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] The Islamic Resistance has announced that two of its members were injured in the raid carried out by Israeli fighter aircraft against a joint Hizballah-Islamic Group position in 'Ayn Bu Siwar in the Jabal Safi at about 1900 tonight. Antiaircraft fire was directed against the raiding planes. The ranks of the Islamic Resistance are on a general alert.

According to security reports, one person was martyred and four others wounded during the raid on the Iqlim al-Tuffah villages.

Several Claimed Wounded

NC2708175889 Paris AFP in English 1738 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Excerpts] Jerusalem, Aug 27 (AFP)—Raiding Israeli jets destroyed a headquarters of the pro-Iranian Hizballah movement Sunday in south Lebanon, a military spokesman here said.

The "terrorist target" hit by the jets was at 'Ayn Bu Siwar, outside the central sector of the "security zone controlled by Israel in southern Lebanon," the spokesman said. [passage omitted]

In Beirut, Hizballah announced in a communique that there were "several civilians wounded" in the Israeli raid.

The air raid targeted positions of the Islamic Resistance—Hizballah military wing—and civilians in the mountainous Iqlim al-Tuffah some 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of Beirut, the group said.

Israel last raided Hizballah positions at Iqlim al-Tuffah in October 1988. Israeli jets hit a Hizballah base at Suhmur, in eastern Lebanon's al-Biqa'a valley, in May of this year.

Islamic Resistance Statement

NC2808082489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] In response to meetings to recent meetings between Hizballah and Amal Movement leaders, Zionist warplanes raided the Islamic Resistance positions in 'Ayn Bu Siwar and civilian targets in Iqlim al-Tuffah. Nine people were martyred and well over 27 others were wounded in the raid.

A responsible source in the Islamic Resistance has made the following statement about this act of aggression:

The Zionist enemy again demonstrates the extent of his fears and unveils his deteriorating mentality. The Islamic fighters' operations inflicted grave losses on the enemy, but the enemy would not engage in face-to-face confrontation with the Islamic fighters. Instead, the enemy carried out bestial air attacks on the houses in 'Ayn Bu Siwar and its vicinity at 1845 yesterday. A number of civilians were wounded and were transferred to hospitals in al-Nabatiyah and Sidon. The raid left many houses damaged.

The statement adds: The Islamic Resistance, which is confronting and resisting the occupation until it is completely wiped out, reiterates that all the Zionists' acts of terrorism and brutality against our struggling people will only increase our people's determination to fight them until our people are liberated from this cancerous gland forever. Victory comes only from God.

In a subsequent statement, the Islamic Resistance declared that the final casualty toll from the Zionist raid stands at 9 people martyred and 27 others, including 15 children and more than 10 women and elderly, wounded. The targets that the Zionist aircraft bombarded include a kitchen belonging to the resistance and a school in the town. Some buildings were destroyed and some others were damaged.

Janta Reportedly Raided 28 Aug

NC2808084089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0811 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Israeli aircraft raided the town of Janta in central al-Biqa' at 0955 today. The aircraft had to jettison their load far from the targets due to intensive antiaircraft fire.

Meanwhile, a squadron of Israeli fighters flew over Iqlim al-Tuffah and east of Sidon, breaking the sound barrier at 0920 today.

2d Raid Reported

LD2808084389 Kuwait KUNA in English 0815 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Beirut, Aug 28 (KUNA)—Israeli warplanes on Monday bombarded a residential area in Thintral [name as received] al-Biqa' valley, less than 24 hours of raiding guerrilla positions in south Lebanon. [sentence as received]

Hizballah Denies Raid on Janta

NC2808103089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Hizballah has denied that there was an Israeli air raid on its positions in Janta. It explained that hostile military aircraft flew at low altitude over the eastern al-Biqa', drawing ground fire.

Hizballah Leaders Threaten Israel, France

NC2708155589 Paris AFP in English 1545 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Jibshit, Lebanon, Aug 27 (AFP)—A leader of the pro-Iranian Hizballah warned here Sunday that his group had ways to force Israel to release a Shiite Moslem shaykh it captured here last month.

"We have the means to strike Israel in a way that will deeply hurt it and liberate Shaykh 'Abd-al-Karim 'Ubayd," Shaykh Muhammad Yazbik told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

He added that the August 9 suicide attack carried out by the Hizballah on an Israeli convoy in south Lebanon was "only a beginning." The attack injured five Israeli soldiers and one pro-Israeli militiaman.

Shaykh Yazbik, who spoke as 80 Shiite fundamentalist clerics gathered to protest Shaykh 'Ubayd's abduction by Israeli commandos from his home in this south Lebanon village, did not say what methods Hizballah would use.

Shaykh 'Ubayd's abduction July 28 provoked a crisis for foreign hostages held in Lebanon, leading to the reported death of one American and threats on the lives of others.

Israel has offered to exchange Shaykh 'Ubayd and other Shiite prisoners it holds for three Israeli soldiers and 15 Western hostages believed held by Shiite groups in Lebanon.

But Hizballah "refused any negotiations with Israel over Israeli soldiers," Shaykh Yazbik said, adding no connection should be made "between Shaykh 'Ubayd's abduction and the affair of Western hostages in Lebanon."

"The organizations that hold hostages are not terrorists," he said. "They abducted citizens of oppressive countries to defend the rights of their people."

Hizballah denies it is tied to the hostage takers, but some of its leaders have justified the kidnapping of Westerners.

The fundamentalist leaders meeting in Jibshit meanwhile blasted France for sending six warships, including an aircraft carrier, toward Lebanon.

"The French intervention is directed against us, and our response will be hard," Shaykh Hasan Baghdadi said in an address to the meeting. "We advise France to cancel its decision so that what happened in 1983 will not happen again."

His remarks referred to a suicide bomb attack on the French military barracks in Beirut that killed over 50 French soldiers.

Fadlallah Calls on Hizballah To Resist French

NC2608062689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, Hizballah's spiritual guide, has called on Hizballah's fighters to resist France if it intervenes in the current fighting in Lebanon. He accused Paris of being biased, despite assurances that it is impartial to all Lebanese communities and parties.

Criticizes French Position

NC2608073789 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0430 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] 'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah expects the situation in Lebanon to move toward a sort of calm and then a cease-fire as a result of international pressure in which various states will play a role on rotational basis. He noted that the situation requires greater alertness and anticipation so that we will not be surprised.

In his Friday sermon, 'Allamah Fadlallah said: We want France to recalculate its position, and we think it has begun to do this. 'Allamah Fadlallah criticized French President Francois Mitterrand's recent position, wondering who gave France the right to intervene in the affairs of oppressed peoples. He added: We are afraid that when French ships approach the Lebanese coast, all mujahidin will challenge and confront them. The French could then say: We shall destroy Beirut. Let them destroy it, because then many policies in the area will be destroyed also.

'Allamah Fadlallah maintained that the Arab committee, which deviated from its balanced position when it reached an impasse, wanted France to pave the way for it, and it also talked to America about this.

Meanwhile, Husayn al-Musawi, leader of the Islamic Amal Movement and a Hizballah leader, affirmed yesterday that as a result of its policy in the area, France may expose its nationals in Lebanon to possible danger. He said that the patriots and Muslims will not hesitate to confront the French fleet just as they had confronted the multinational force in 1983.

Al-Musawi accused France of trying to give priority to the interests of political Maronism over the interests of the majority of Lebanese Muslims and Christians.

Group Threatens Pope John Paul II

NC2808102489 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] The Organization in Defense of the Oppressed on Earth [munazzamat al-difa' 'an al-mustad'afin fi al-ard] has advised His Holiness John Paul II to write his will before coming to Lebanon because he will be one of the victims of the war in Lebanon.

In a hand-written statement delivered to an international news agency in Beirut, the organization said: We will be present to receive his holiness the pope of Rome, as we received the Zionist occupiers, the Reagan forces, and our beloved mother France in 1982 and 1983.

The organization revealed its existence for the first time on 25 August, when it threatened to attack French interests if France intervened militarily in Lebanon.

National Front: Postpone Visit

NC2808160889 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1430 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] The Lebanese National Front has requested Pope John Paul II to postpone visiting Lebanon. A visit under current circumstances would bear many risks, intensify the political and military conflict, and contribute to the expansion of the artificial division and the delay of a solution.

Referring to French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas' proposals, the front said: The Syrian presence in Lebanon was necessitated by internal Lebanese conditions and came in response to an official Lebanese request. The future of this presence will be decided by Lebanese interests as viewed by the government of a unified Arab Lebanon.

During its meeting, held in the presence of Minister Nabih Biri today, the front discussed the Zionist aggression against the town of 'Ayn Bu Siwar and the deportation of Palestinians from the occupied territory. In a statement read by Minister Nabih Birri, the front condemned the provocative statement by French Republican Party leader Leotard. The statement said that the front studied the stand it will convey to the French minister when he visits Lebanon soon.

'Large Number' of Iranians Reportedly Arrives

NC2608163289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] The BAYRUT NEWS AGENCY has quoted informed sources as saying that a large number of Iranians have arrived in the north and taken to a number of centers belonging to the Islamic Unification Movement. The same sources add that a leftist party supervised the training of these Iranians before they were transferred to their new posts where they will be under the supervision of the Syrian troops operating in northern Lebanon.

Junblatt Dismisses 22 Libyan Instructors

JN2708170989 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Aug p 26

[Text] Beirut—Lebanese sources have disclosed to AL-ANBA' that Minister Walid Junblatt dismissed 22 Libyan officers who had been instructing the Popular Liberation Army-Forces of Martyr Kamal Junblatt in the use of weapons in the mountain area of Hammanah.

The Libyan officers were said to have been disarmed and individually transported to al-Biqa' and then on to Syria in early August.

The move follows a sharp deterioration in relations between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the Lebanese parties aligned against the government of General Michel 'Awn, caused by the suspension of Libyan support to forces not militarily active against the Israeli presence in Lebanon.

A visit by Junblatt to Tripoli 2 months ago failed to bring about a change in the Libyan stand. Aides to the head of Lebanon's military governement are quoted as saying that Libyan authorities had Junblatt and his delegation foot the hotel bills.

Another visit to Tripoli by the Lebanese Communist and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Parties in the company of Syria's Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam failed to sway the Libyans. According to observers, the Libyans told them: We are now entitled to know what we are exactly doing in Lebanon if we are to keep funding you. To which the party leaders cited Junblatt's overtures to Hizballah and the Iranian Government's pledge to fund the "National Front" parties that signed the "Tehran statement" in coordination with Damascus.

Junblatt had visited a leader of Hizballah, Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, in Ba'labakk, and a picture was circulated of him squatting on the ground flanked by Al-Tufayli and Husayn al-Musawi.

Hizballah demands that the adjective Islamic be added to the title "the Nationalist Front" to reflect new realities.

Al-Huss Evaluates Initiative by USSR's Tarasov

NC2608084889 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has affirmed that the Soviet Union is trying to remove the obstacles that the Arab committee faced in trying to resolve the Lebanese crisis.

Prime Minister al-Huss told REUTER today: The Soviet effort does not seek to monopolize the solution to the crisis, and it is pursuing a clear program and a specific goal. The Soviet effort is new and distinctive in its aim to achieve a specific interim goal that would enable the Arab committee to resume its mission and reopen the way for the Arab-sponsored solution. Prime Minister al-Huss noted that Soviet envoy Tarasov was eager to affirm his country's intention to continue contacts with Arab and international forces concerned with the Lebanese issue in order to ensure the success of these efforts. He did not rule out contacts with any big power or state.

Asked what results Soviet efforts could produce in terms of the cease-fire, Prime Minister al-Huss said: We appreciate the Soviet Union's understanding, seriousness, and comprehension of the realities of the Lebanese crisis. We hope their efforts will produce good results, and the first of these results will be the consolidation of the cease-fire.

'Awn Said To Accept Proposals

NC2508173289 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Well-informed sources have told our radio that during his talks in Lebanon, Soviet envoy Gennadiy Tarasov concentrated on the need to establish a security truce at this stage. The envoy proposed a 3-month period of political contacts during which the parties concerned would refrain from sending weapons to Lebanon. The envoy will discuss this proposal in his visits to Iraq, Jordan, and Syria.

The 3-month period, the sources said, will involve consultations on the establishment of a security committee and the lifting of the sieges, as well as political dialogue through the efforts of the Arab committee.

The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY has cited a source close to Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn as saying that 'Awn has accepted the Soviet envoy's proposals. The source noted that the Soviet proposals were general and included no details.

Al-Huss Comments on Dumas Settlement Proposal

NC2808140489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Answering a question from AFP on French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas' proposals to resolve the situation in Lebanon, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has stated: We are committed to the Casablanca Arab summit resolution. We support the Arab initiative sponsored by the higher Arab committee. No one in our position can look for any alternative to the Arab initiative.

Therefore, we hope that the higher Arab committee resumes its activities soon. We continue to pin our hopes on the success of its mission to draw up a timetable to implement the Casablanca summit resolution in a way that will end Lebanon's current tribulations. Contemplation of any alternative to the Arab initiative presupposes the failure of the Arab committee in its mission. We are not considering anything along these lines, and the French Government should not consider it either.

'Awn Forces Attempt To Infiltrate Salima

NC2508194089 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] A security source reported this evening that a group of the al-Yarzah [East Beirut] army clique attempted an infiltration operation in the area of Salima similar to the Zanduqah operation of 7 August. The Lebanese National Front's forces confronted and clashed with the group, inflicting a number of casualties.

Meanwhile, 'Awn's cliques have created tension on the Mountain confrontion lines. Shortly after 2100 this evening, these cliques began directing artillery fire at the towns of 'Alayh, Shwit, and Duhur al-'Ibadiyah.

Intermittent clashes are now taking place on the Sodeco and Primo confrontation lines in the capital. The clashes were started by the al-Yarzah cliques early this evening.

More on 'Resistance Operation'

NC2508195889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Excerpt] A Lebanese group carried out a resistance operation against a Syrian position in Salima in upper al-Matn, killing and wounding several members of the Syrian occupation forces. The Syrians immediately cordoned off the area, searched buildings, and made arrests. Among the places searched were some positions of the leftist parties operating in the area. [passage omitted]

Shelling, Clashes in Mountain, Beirut 28 Aug

NC2808150489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Artillery and rocket fire have been exchanged on the Suq al-Gharb front since 1430 today. The shelling extended as far as 'Ayn Sa'adah. Clashes occurred on the Dahr al-Wahsh-Arayya confrontation lines, where sporadic fighting is continuing. Skirmishes were reported on the Ra's al-Nab' confrontation line [in Beirut] at 1650. A fire broke out when a shell fell in the Beirut port area.

Syria

Khaddam Cited on Lebanon, Arab Committee Efforts

JN2708103589 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Dubayy, 27 Aug (WAKH)—Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam has said that September will be the month of the decisive political settlement in Lebanon if the political efforts being currently exerted do not fail.

Dubayy AL-BAYAN today quoted Khaddam as warning that the failure of these efforts will lead to a major military explosion.

The paper, citing Lebanese sources, quoted Khaddam as saying that there is Soviet-U.S. coordination on settling the Lebanese issue on the basis of supporting the efforts of the Arab tripartite committee and urging it to activate its mission through the contacts currently under way, which seek to achieve this objective within 2 weeks.

These sources added that the tripartite committee, once its efforts are activated, will hold direct contacts with all parties of the Lebanese conflict in order to reach a political settlement based on a consolidation of the cease-fire, the lifting of blockades, and the revival of a proposal calling for the formation of an Arab committee to be tasked with monitoring ships and the Lebanese coast.

Foreign Minister Al-Shar' Returns From Jordan

JN2708185289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Damascus—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this evening returned to Damascus following an official 2-day visit to Jordan.

He was seen off at Amman airport by Marwan al-Qasim, Jordanian deputy prime minister and foreign minister; senior Foreign Ministry officials; the Syrian ambassador in Amman and the embassy staff; and the Jordanian ambassador in Damascus.

Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd Ibn-Shakir received Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the accompanying delegation at 1800 today to continue the talks between the two sides. Marwan al-Qasim attended.

This afternoon, Al-Shar' held a news conference in Amman which was attended by a large number of Arab and foreign press agency correspondents. [passage omitted]

Press Cited on French 'Piracy' Against Lebanon

JN2408065489 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 24 Aug 89

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "France and the Game of Fire", AL-BA'TH says in today's commentary: France has announced the dispatch of a number of war vessels to the eastern Mediterranean, generously indicating that it wants to play a role in Lebanon under the cover of aiding a certain Lebanese faction in a certain Lebanese area to which it is linked by historical ties. But we ask: What gives France the right to interfere in such a rude way in Lebanon's affairs? Who authorized it to play the role it is claiming for itself? Is France proceeding from humanitarian considerations? Have such considerations ever been associated with aircraft carriers, warships, destroyers, and tools of murder and destruction? Why did not this nobility and kindness appear when Sharon was destroying and burning Beirut over 80 long days in 1982?

The paper adds: We in Syria know France through past history. We believed that the developments that France and the world experienced, which led to the removal of colonialism and to the achievement of peoples' national independence, had turned over the black page of the past. But the past dreams of the empire seem to continue to be entertained in the minds of some French politicians. Has France forgotten the fate of the Atlantic force of which it was part in 1983? If Paris wants to play a role in Lebanon, then this role cannot be played through heightening tension, massing fleets, and hinting at interference. Rather, it is played through extinguishing the source of fire and helping the Lebanese protect the unity of their country and secure its future.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Undaunted by the fleets, Syria will not abandon its decision to help Lebanon and lead the Lebanese toward dialogue and understanding. The fleets frighten their owners more than anybody else, and the party that will pay the heavy price is the one that encourages the fools and dwarfs, and plays with fire; it is the party that forgot or pretended to forget that the time of fleets and warships has gone for ever.

Under the headline: "The French Interference and the Peoples' Will", TISHRIN says: If France is suffering the complex that it is no longer a superpower, then why should the Lebanese pay for this complex? It is the right of the Lebanese people to defend their existence and destiny and to protect their unity within the framework of their clear Arab affiliation. It is their right to consider the French piracy an act of aggression deserving to be dealt with as a hostile target. National resistance to this hostile target finds its justification and legitimacy in all international laws and norms. We do not think that the French piracy will result in a better future than that experienced by the marines and the Atlantic forces after the Zionist invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

Afghanistan

Foreign Ministry Protests U.S. 'State Terrorism'

LD2508175489 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has said the following concerning the recent statement by Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee:

After returning from Pakistan, Claiborne Pell, chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, recently said that U.S. military assistance to the extremist opposition forces of the Republic of Afghanistan should be increased, and if required, they should be supplied with more advanced weapons.

This is an irresponsible statement, particularly at a time when the people of Afghanistan and all peace-loving forces of the world perceive the futility of solving issues by military means. They regard the unreserved implementation of the Geneva accords and constructive dialogue between Afghans as the only reliable way to restore peace and end bloodshed in the country, and expect the international community to use all possibilities to achieve peace and bring about understanding in our country. Such irresponsible assertions as made by Pell are an interference in the affairs of an independent and sovereign country by U.S. state terrorism and a violation of the Geneva accords by the very country which is a guarantor of those accords.

The Republic of Afghanistan asks all countries, organizations, and peace-loving forces of the international community to use all possible means to prevent U.S. interference in our country's affairs as it wants to continue the war by supplying the extremist forces with up-to-date weapons and thus cause the killing and massacre of Afghans. Raise your voice against the ugly and barbarious policy of U.S. state terrorism against the Republic of Afghanistan.

U.S. Congressional Candidate Meets Najibullah

BK2708082289 Hong Kong AFP in English 0815 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Excerpt] Kabul, Aug 27 (AFP)—U.S. congressional candidate Bill Quraishi arrived here unannounced Sunday [27 August] for meetings with Afghan President Najibullah and Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil.

Mr. Quraishi, a Republican politician from California running in next year's race to represent the state's 11th District in the House of Representatives, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he could make no comment on his visit until the meetings were over. "I hope to have a press conference later today or tomorrow," he said.

Mr. Quraishi is the first member of the U.S. Congress known to have visited Kabul since the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan February 15.

Mr. Quraishi, who spoke briefly to an AFP correspondent at the airport, confirmed only that he would hold a meeting with Mr. Wakil before the latter's departure Sunday to Belgrade for a non-aligned countries' meeting.

He said he also had "an appointment" with Mr. Najibullah, but declined to say whether the meeting concerned the ongoing efforts by the United Nations and other bodies to find a solution to the war in this country. [passage omitted]

Wakil Departs for SFRY, Nonaligned Summit

LD2708224889 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] 'Abdul Wakil, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, left for Belgrade today to take part in the session of foreign ministers of the Nonaligned Movement countries today. Preliminary preparations for the nonaligned countries' summit, which is due to be held 4-7 September in Belgrade, will be assessed.

Lieutenant General Muhammad Aslam Watanjar, the minister of internal affairs, some senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the charges d'affaires of the Soviet and Yugoslav Embassies in Kabul saw off 'Abdul Wakil and accompanying delegation.

Responding to a question by a BAKHTAR correspondent, the minister of foreign affairs siad before departing: The session of the Nonaligned Movement heads of state or heads of governments will be held in a completely difference atmosphere than in previous years. A better situation now exists, in connection with the resolution of regional disputes and the disarmament. It is hoped that the movement will be able to play a valuable role in the peaceful resolution of regional disputes through negotiation and dialogue. Most of the countries know the righteousness of Afghanistan's position and aims for ensuring permanent peace and stopping war and fratricide. All concerns of the movement have now been alleviated by the complete observance of the Geneva accords by Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, and the efforts made on the part of Afghanistan for the withdrawal of the Soviet Union's units. Afghanistan enjoys a strong position in the session and Pakistan cannot control its interfering and aggressive aims and on its unconstructive position regarding Afghanistan. In the past Pakistan has capitalized on the confusion of the conference atmosphere and other international gatherings to use it for propaganda purposes. Pakistan is under pressure from members of the Nonaligned Movement for its aggressive and interfering policies against the Republic of Afghanistan; the movement has backed a series of initiatives to help the peace process and Pakistan has taken an unconstructive position.

The delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan, headed by esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, will once again draw the attention of the movement to the grave situation caused Pakistan's total disregard of the Geneva accords. We believe the movement can play an

important and valuable role in the acceleration of peace process in line with the principles and goal for the implementation of which the movement campaigns.

Esteemed Najibullah will put forward a series of proposals for the restoration of peace in the Republic of Afghanistan at the ninth conference of the Nonaligned Movement summit. The world will know about them then.

We hope the movement will result in the strengthening of solidarity among its members and the affirmation of its role as one of the strongest equations in international politics.

Najibullah To Attend Non-Aligned Conference

BK2708143289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1425 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Kabul, Aug 27 (AFP)—Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil left here Sunday for a non-aligned meeting in Belgrade saying his government would press for a resolution condemning Pakistan and the United States.

Mr. Wakil, speaking at a brief airport press conference before his departure for Belgrade via Moscow, said Afghan President Najibullah would attend and address the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit scheduled for September 4-7 in the Yugoslavian capital.

It will be Mr. Najibullah's first appearance at an international conference since the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan was completed in Febraury, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Mr. Wakil said he believed a nam resolution would urge "complete compliance with the Geneva Accords on Afghanistan by all signatories," and added that he felt this would add to Pakistan's diplomatic isolation within the movement.

He said he expected the resolution to indirectly pressure the United States, a major arms supplier to the mujahidin rebels.

The United States, along with the Soviet Union, was a guarantor of the April 1988 Geneva accords which paved the way for the Soviet troop pullout.

Mr. Wakil said he would attend the working and foreign ministerial meetings preceding the Belgrade summit, where he hoped to push through the resolution urging compliance with the U.N.-brokered accords which call for a peaceful solution to the Afghan conflict.

War has escalated since the signing of the accords by Afghanistan and Pakistan, a major base for the rebels and home to some 3.2 million Afghan refugees.

The Americans accuse the Soviets of doubling their military aid supplies to Kabul, while Moscow and Kabul accuse Pakistan and the U.S. of "direct involvement and aggression" in the war.

Kabul and Moscow say that Washington and Islamabad are bound by the Geneva pact to keep out of Afghanistan and add that the accords do not cover Soviet military supplies which are in accordance with bilateral treaties with Kabul.

President Najibullah Visits Jalalabad 27 Aug

LD2808133989 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah arrived in the city of Jalalabad yesterday afternoon, 27 August. The BIA correspondent reports that esteemed Najibullah was received at Jalalabad airport by Lieutenant General Ghulam Faruq Ya'qubi, the minister of state security; Lieutenant General Mohammad Nabi Azimi, commander of the eastern front; Major General Manoki Mangal, governor and chairman of Nangarhar Province Defense Council; several officials; and a number of elders and dignitaries of the province. Then esteemed Najibullah went to the eastern front headuarters where Lientenant General Mohammad Nabi Azimi, commander of the eastern front, furnished detailed accounts of the military situation of Jalalabad and Nangarhar Province with the esteemed president of Afghanistan. Then esteemed Najibullah met with party and government officials and gave them guidelines on improving the military situation and the reconstruction of Jalalabad.

The BIA reporter adds that esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, attendedn a meeting of the people, senior party and government officials, and defenders of the city of Jalalabad. In a speech Najibullah praised the valor, gallantry, and heroism of the defenders of Jalalabad and once again insisted on the inexorable need for national reconciliation and new proposals by the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan for the cessation of war and ensuring peace in the country.

During the meeting esteemed Najibullah conferred medals of the Republic of Afghanistan on the elders and dignitaries of Jalalabad.

According to another report by the BIA correspondent, esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, visited a number of security posts around the city of Jalalabad and talked to soldiers and officers. Later, the esteemed president of Afghanistan went to one of the units of the Nangarhar armed forces and awarded medals of the Republic of Afghanistan to those officers who had an active role in defending Jalalabad.

The BIA reporter adds that esteemed Najibullah conducted separate talks with the authorities and people of Jalalabad.

According to yet another report from the BIA correspondent, esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, returned to Kabul from Jalalabad this morning, 28 August. The details of esteemed Najibullah's visit to Jalalabad will be published later.

Mujahidin Leader Wants Najibullah's 'Surrender'

BK2608044089 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The prime minister of the interim government of Afghanistan, Professor 'Abdul Rab Rasul Sayyaf, has rejected the recent proposal of the head of the Kabul regime, Mr Najibullah. According to the news agency of the interim government, MIDIA [Media Information Department of Islamic Afghanistan], he said that there was nothing new in these proposals.

The prime minister of the interim government said that there is only one way left for Najibullah; that is, to announce his repentance and surrender himself along with his companions to the interim government of Afghanistan. [passage omitted]

Soviet Peace Group Meets Defense Minister, Others

LD2708071589 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0525 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 26, BAKHTAR—Lieutenant General Shah Nawaz Tanay, minister of defence of the Republic of Afghanistan met here today with the high-ranking Soviet delegation headed by Genrikh Borovik, member of the Supreme Soviet and chairman of the Peace Committee of the Soviet Union. During the meeting matters of mutual interests were discussed.

Likewise Dr. Khalil Ahmad Abawi, speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Afghanistan had a meeting with the Soviet delegation here today. Both sides discussed the role of the parliament of Afghanistan under the national reconciliation and attraction of the attention of the world parliaments for strengthening world peace. During the meeting the sides stressed on expansion of parliamentary ties between the two countries.

On the basis of another report the Soviet delegation met here today with Basir Ranjbar, chairman of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of Afghanistan "PSFOA" and exchanged views on the matters of mutual interests.

The Soviet delegation arrived to Kabul yesterday at the invitation of the PSFOA for an official and friendly visit.

Hekmatyar, Rabbani Groups Battle in Alingar

LD2508214389 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] The extent of the clashes among the murderers group following Golbuddin and his rival groups has affected many provinces of the country and has caused great loss of life and financial damage to the rival groups.

The BAKHTAR military section reports that bloody clashes took place yesterday between the murderous Golbuddin and Rabbani groups in some regions of the Alingar District, Laghman Province. The rival group killed three members of the Golbuddin group, arrested six others, and confiscated their weapons.

Heavy clashes continue among these rival groups in areas of Badakhshan, Konduz, and Sar-e Pol Provinces. The BAKHTAR military section has not received a casualty report on these clashes.

'Intense Interfactional Fighting'

BK2508140189 Hong Kong AFP in English 1319 GMT 25 Aug 89

[By Rene Slama]

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Aug 25 (AFP)—Intense interfactional fighting has flared in northeastern Afghanistan with one rebel leader accusing another of collusion with the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul.

The fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami led by Golbuddin Hekmatyar has said at least 5,000 men of the rival Jamiyat-e Eslami recently launched "simultaneous attacks" on several Hezb-e bases in Takhar and Badakhshan Provinces, leaving at least 150 people dead in Badakhshan.

The fighting in the provinces bordering the Soviet Union, which was also reported by Radio Kabul, was led by Jamiyat commander Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, also known as the "lion of Panjshir."

Jamiyat military chief Sayyed Muhammad Ayub Friday denied that commander Mas'ud's forces and those of the Hezb-e had clashed in Badakhshan. "The Jamiyat has been engaged in operations against the communist forces for the past 10 days," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Mr. Ayub acknowledged, however, that the Jamiyat last week launched "combing operations" in Takhar intended to "neutralize" Hezb-e commander Sayyed Jamal and his men. They have been accused of massacring 30 Jamiyat guerrillas, including six commanders, on July 9 in the same province.

The Jamiyat and the Hezb-e are among seven Sunni Muslim resistance groups based in Pakistan which have been fighting Kabul's forces in a 10-year guerrilla war.

Although theoretically allied under a provisional government formed six months ago in Pakistan, the two rival groups are engaged in a struggle for influence in northern Afghanistan, diplomats in Pakistan said.

In a message received here Friday by his brother Ahmed Zia, Commander Masood said he had "captured alive" 300 fighters of the Hezb-e group, including "a number of commanders," and had seized their weapons. He said that Commander Jamal had at first escaped but was captured Tuesday by residents of Sadbargan, a town which he had transformed into a military base.

Commander Mas'ud said he had no intention of avenging the killings and would hand over Commander Jamal and his men to a judicial body formed 15 days ago

by the mujahidin provisional government. Commander Mas'ud also accused the Hezb-e Eslami of "collusion" and "collaboration" with the Kabul authorities, saying that Commander Jamal had concluded "accords" with the regime to try to limit Jamiat influence in the region.

The Takhar incident has been condemned by the United States, which along with Pakistan is one of the mujahidin's principal backers.

Commander Mas'ud said his men in Badakhshan Province were engaged in a series of operations against Kabul's troops with a view to taking the provincial capital of Faizabad and setting up a land link to Pakistan.

The Jamiyat military leader in Peshawar announced the capture last week of the strategic garrison of Zebak and the surrender of 500 Kabul soldiers. He said Commander Mas'ud's forces had seized other military posts near Ishkashim, on the Soviet border, which was followed by "bombings by the Russians."

Mr. Hekmatyar, the Hezb-e political and military leader, has been in Paktia Province in eastern Afghanistan since August 14, where he called an emergency meeting of the executive committee of his party, sources close to him said here Friday.

AFP: Fighting Spreads

BK2708002689 Hong Kong AFP in English 1846 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Kabul, Aug 26 (AFP)—Interfactional fighting between two mujahidin groups has spread to northeastern Badakhshan Province with the deaths of several hundred guerrillas, Afghan Government spokesman Muhammad Nabi Amani said Saturday [26 August].

Mr. Amani said reports indicated that on August 23 troops of Golbuddin Hekmatyar's faction of the Hezb-e Eslami group had attacked a group of Jamiyat-e Eslami and captured 16 commanders and about 100 men. "The commanders were tortured—first their hands were cut off, then their feet and finally their heads," Mr. Amani said, adding that "the other 100 were shot dead." He named 11 of the 16 Jamiyat commanders as Mawlawi Naimutullah, Mullah Ajab Muhammad, Mullah Sarwar, Muhammad Aqbal, Mullah Khairuddin, Mir Ahmad Shah, Payenda Khan, Amannuddin, Malang, 'Abdul Wasseh and Nawab Muhammad.

The Jamiyat group had retaliated by shooting 200 of Mr. Hekmatyar's men, including some commanders, in the same area, he said, adding that civilians had also suffered in the shootout, but gave no figures for civilian casualties.

The clashes took place in the Baharak District of Badakhshan, Mr. Amani said, and was believed to be a part of the ongoing feud between the two mujahidin factions which broke out on July 9 with a Hezb-e ambush on the Jamiyat in the same province which left 30 Jamiyat guerrillas including six commanders dead. The fighting has also led to rebel leaders accusing each other of collusion with the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul.

The fundamentalist Hezb-e Eslami has said at least 5,000 Jamiyat men recently launched "simultaneous attacks" on several Hezb-e bases in Takhar and Badakhshan Provinces, leaving at least 150 people dead in Badakhshan.

The fighting in the provinces bordering the Soviet Union, which was also reported by Radio Kabul, was led by Jamiyat commander Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, also known as the "Lion of Panjsher."

Jamiyat military chief Sayyed Muhammad Ayub on Friday denied that commander Mas'ud's forces and those of the Hezb-e had clashed in Badakhshan, saying Jamiyat forces had been operating against government troops for the last 10 days. Mr. Ayub acknowledged, however, that the Jamiyat last week launched "combing operations" in Takhar intended to "neutralize" Hezb-e commander Sayyed Jamal.

The Jamiyat and the Hezb-e are among seven Sunni Moslem resistance groups based in Pakistan which have been fighting Kabul's forces in a 10-year guerrilla war. Although theoretically allied under a provisional government formed six months ago in Pakistan, the two rival groups are engaged in a struggle for influence in northern Afghanistan, diplomats in Pakistan have said.

In a message received in Peshawar Friday by his brother Ahmed Zia, Commander Mas'ud said he had "captured alive" 300 Hezb-e guerrillas, including "a number of commanders," adding that Commander Jamal had been captured Tuesday by residents of Sadbargan, a town which he had transformed into a military base.

Commander Mas'ud said he had no intention of avenging the killings and would hand over Commander Jamal and his men to a judicial body formed 15 days ago by the mujahidin provisional government.

Rockets Seized; Clashes Among Extremists Noted

LD2708080689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 26, BAKHTAR—Organs of the Ministry of State Security carried out mopping up operations in some areas of Kho-i-Safi [as received], Kabul Province today as a result four U.S.-made Sacker-20 surface to surface rockets and a number of artillery munitions were seized. The rockets which had been hidden in Kho-i-Safi area by the extremists were ready to be fired on residential areas of Kabul city.

According to another report ninety persons were killed and 120 others wounded in Helmand Province as a result of the armed clashes which occurred in the past five days among rival extremist groups.

The report adds that heavy material losses were inflicted upon the residents of that areas as well.

U.S.-Made Missiles Discovered Outside Kabul

LD2508212489 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] To prevent the launching of surface-to-surface missiles on the residential regions of the city of Kabul by our people's enemies, Ministry of State Security organs conducted a mopping-up operation in the area around Kabul.

The BAKHTAR military section reported that during this mopping-up operation, three U.S.-made surface-to-surface missiles, including one Sakar-20 missile—which were deployed by the extremists in areas around Kabul for shelling the city in line with U.S. and Pakistan state terrorism plans—were discovered with the cooperation of the local people. Thus, a tragic incident in Kabul City was averted

'Extremists' Shell Jalalabad, Khowst District

LD2708070989 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0521 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 26, BAKHTAR—Pakistani-supported extremist bands today again fired heavy weapons on the security posts and residential areas outside Jalalabad city. The attack of the extremists was rebuffed by the Armed Forces killing 22 extremists and wounding another 45. Several ringleaders, some Pakistani militarymen and Wahhabi mercenaries are included among the killed persons.

According to another report, the enemy shelled heavy weapons on Khowst Grand District on August 25 causing the death of several personnel of Armed Forces. The detachments of the Armed Forces there also inflicted heavy blows on the enemy. Another mopping up operation was carried out in Qandahar Province as a result of which several positions of the enemy were destroyed and a quantity of arms was recovered from the enemy.

Mujahidin Deny Use of Cluster Bombs on Cities

BK2608032289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are said to have captured a strategically important base at (Daraghai) near the eastern town of Khowst, which is now witnessing fierce fighting.

Meanwhile, the Afghan mujahidin have rejected Kabul regime allegations about the mujahidin's use of cluster bombs on cities, saying that the allegations are intended to justify the Kabul regime's use of lethal weapons against the mujahidin and the civilian population.

Mujahidin 'Accelerated' Operations Detailed

BK2708145589 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1300 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan speak of mujahidin's accelerated operations in various sectors. During their recent operations in Balkh, Mazar-e Sharif, Badakhshan, Baghlan, Kabul, Nangarhar, Paktia, and Qandahar regions, mujahidin killed 82 Kabul regime troops, including the deputy commander of a brigade, wounded 91 and captured above 100 troops. Another 21 Kabul troops deserted in the course of these operations.

Commentary Assails U.S. Support for Mujahidin

LD2608062789 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 26 Aug 89

["Commentary on the Delivery of New Weapons by the U.S. to the Terrorists"—BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, August 25, BAKHTAR—It becomes clear by every passing day that the solution of the situation in Afghanistan by military means is impossible and the only alternative to the issue is political solution through talks and dialogue which could lead to the cessation of fratricidal war and ensuring of peace.

The U.S. authorities in international arena are claiming for campaigning against terrorism but in practice it contradicts its claims by delivery of new lethal weapons to the murderer opposition bands and in this manner heightens state terrorism.

The delivery of advanced weapons particularly surface-to-surface rockets by the United States to the opposition band is in itself providing the grounds for state terrorism. Instead of honouring its commitments vis-a-vis the Geneva accords, the U.S. authorities are flaring up the flames of war and has practically turned to become a party in the conflict of Afghanistan.

The people of Afghanistan after the return of the Soviet contingent from Afghanistan have very well comprehended in the past six months that which forces are endeavouring for ensuring peace and which ones are fanning the fratricidal war. The United States earlier put at the disposal of the murderer opposition bands the lethal weapons under the pretext of the presence of Soviet military detachments in Afghanistan. Now there is no logical reason to continue its shipment of arms to the professional terrorists.

Undoubtedly, the world public opinions as well as the Afghan people are severely condemning the U.S. authorities and Pakistani militarymen who are fanning up the state terrorism and are expressing their hatred and indignation against the perpetrators of such an anti-human and criminal policy.

Bangladesh

President Ershad Appoints New Health Minister

BK2608082889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0722 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 26 (AFP)—Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad Saturday [26 August] appointed a leading doctor as a cabinet minister to head the Ministry of Health and Family Planning, the official BSS news agency reported.

Azizur Rahman was director of the Bangladesh Association of Voluntary Sterilization, a non-governmental organisation, until his cabinet appointment, the agency said.

The ministry was earlier headed by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Matin who resigned on August 14, two days after Mr Ershad announced a major reshuffle of two top government posts.

In the reshuffle, Mr Ershad named Deputy Premier Kazi Zafar Ahmed, as the new prime minister to replace Moudud Ahmed, who was appointed vice-president.

Mr Matin was one of three deputy premiers and was senior to Mr Zafar Ahmed in the 37-member Council of Ministers.

Mr Ershad gave Vice-President Moudud Ahmed the additional charge of the Ministry of Law and Justice, BSS said. Mr Ahmed already holds the charge of the Ministry of Industries.

The Law and Justice Ministry was earlier headed by former Vice-President Nurul Islam, who was dropped without any reason cited in the August 12 reshuffle.

Further on Ministerial Appointments

BK2608160389 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Doctor Azizur Rahman, a renowned physician, has been sworn in as a minister. President Ershad administered the oath of office in the capital today. Dr Rahman, former director of Bangladesh Association of Voluntary Sterilization, has been given the portfolio of health and family planning. Prior to his new assignment he was chairman of the Board of Trustees of BANGLADESH TIMES.

Vice President Moudud Ahmed, who is in charge of the Ministry of Industry, has been given additional responsibility of the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Foreign Minister Visits DPRK, Meets Leaders

For Pyongyang KCNA news agency accounts of the "official goodwill visit" to North Korea by a Bangladesh delegation led by Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud, including meetings with North Korean President Kim Il-song and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, see the North Korea section of the 23 August East Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

India

Gunmen Open Fire on People in Srinagar 25 Aug

BK2508161889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, some gunmen fired on the people coming out from a religious place in Srinagar after Friday prayer today. When the police retaliated, the gunmen ran inside the religious place and took some people, including women and children, as hostages.

An official spokesman told our Srinagar correspondent that police cordoned off the area and later got the hostages released.

30 Injured in Clashes With Police in Srinagar

BK2508163989 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] At least 30 people were injured in stone throwing and police firing in (Unnala) Marg in Srinagar today. Security personnel were among those injured in stone throwing incidents. Police had opened fire after teargas failed to disperse the stone throwing mob.

Soviet Team Visits, Studies Riot Control Methods

BK2608112289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1038 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 26 (AFP)—A high-level Soviet team has visited New Delhi to study how India's police control riots, protest rallies and political demonstrations, police officials said here Saturday [26 August].

They said the group, which included an unnamed Soviet deputy minister, as well as military and police officers, held discussions for a week with top-ranking officers of the 51,000-member New Delhi Police Department then left for Moscow on Friday.

The Soviet team also met riot-control officials of the federal Home Ministry and experts from the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRND) to learn the latest techniques India has developed to control mass demonstrations.

A Soviet Embassy official refused to confirm or deny reports that the Soviet team had come to New Delhi last week for discussions.

"We are not issuing any comments or statements on the report," the official spokesman said.

But embassy sources confirmed that a team had come to India for high-level discussions on riot-control measures following growing disturbances in several Soviet republics.

Indian officials refused to disclose the name of the Soviet deputy minister who headed the delegation, but said the Soviets met most of the senior officers of the city police for talks on crowd-control procedures.

They also visited local police camps to see riot police practicing with tear gas, stun guns and canes, the officers said.

Home Ministry officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the BPRND presented some of the latest devices it has developed for anti-riot measures and exhibited locally built equipment like stun-guns, tear grenades and rubber bullets.

India limited the use of rubber bullets after discovering that the projectiles penetrated the body, causing serious wounds.

THE TIMES OF INDIA newspaper said the Soviets also sought Indian expertise in developing an anti-riot police force, as the Soviet Union lacks both law and experience in handling mass demonstrations.

The Indian officers said the Soviets proposed that India could help build such a force in the Soviet Union, but added that New Delhi had not yet taken any decision to send local experts there.

"Indian expertise was sought, as there is no relevant law to deal with such situations, while India has more than a century of experience in putting down civil disobedience movements and mass demonstrations," the TIMES said.

Moscow has recently been facing serious ethnic and religious riots, as well as strikes and other major demonstrations throughout the country.

Indian police and paramilitary forces quelled some 8,000 minor or major riots, mostly student disturbances or communal clashes between the Hindus and Moslems, during 1987 alone, according to the latest official reports.

The 80,000-strong paramilitary Central Reserve Police force is the country's best equipped anti-riot force and has often been deployed during major incidents either to reinforce or replace the local police.

Punjab Janata Dal Members Attack Party Leader

BK2608163689 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] A senior Janata Dal leader of Punjab, Mr Roop Lal Sathi, was seriously injured in Jullundur today when he was allegedly attacked by his party men. Mr Sathi is the chairman of the party's state parliamentary board. The incident took place at a meeting of the state Janata Dal. The trouble arose when Mr Sathi submitted a list of 15 persons for approval as members of the state parliamentary board to the high command.

In a statement to the police, Mr Sathi charged three state Janata Dal leaders with planning a conspiracy to kill him. The three leaders include the state party chief, Mr Kripal Singh. Mr Sathi has demanded immediate dismissal of Mr Kripal Singh.

Congress-I Criticizes Opposition for Strike Call

BK2708161089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Four Congress-I members of parliament have criticized the opposition leaders for trying to force a bundh [strike] and disrupt normal life.

In a statement in New Delhi, they said these leaders are determined to create chaos in the country after their brazen acts of impropriety and lawlessness in Parliament. They expressed confidence that the people will not be misled by these leaders.

The signatories to the state are: Chaudhary Birendra Singh, Mr Pavan Kumar Bansal, Mr D.P.Ray, and Mr Surendra Singh.

Congress-I Wants West Bengal Chief's Resignation

BK2608051089 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] In West Bengal, Congress-I workers held demonstrations and rallies all over the state yesterday in support of their demands, including the resignation of the chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu. They submitted a memorandum to the state governor, Mr T.V. Rajeshawar, drawing his attention to what they called the deteriorating law and order situation and corruption at various levels in the state administration.

Addressing a rally in Calcutta, the PCC-I [Pradesh State Congress-I Committee] president, Mr A.B.A. Ghani Khan Choudhury, alleged that the opposition parties are trying to create chaos in the country in order to weaken its democratic structure.

Gandhi, Birendra To Meet in Belgrade 4 Sep

BK2608155889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, will hold a meeting with King Birendra of Nepal in Belgrade on the 4th of next month. This was announced by the external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, in an informal chat with newsmen aboard the plane while returning from Kathmandu today.

Mr Gandhi and King Birendra will be in the Yugoslav capital to attend the nonaligned summit.

On his return to New Delhi after a day's visit to Nepal, Mr Narasimha Rao said his visit has paved the way for the summit meeting between the two leaders.

Earlier talking to newsmen at Kathmandu Airport, Mr Rao said that he is very much satisfied with his talks with the Nepalese leaders.

The Nepalese foreign minister, Mr Upadhyaya, told newsmen at the airport that the two sides have agreed to continue the dialogue further. He said an early solution will be in the interest of Nepal.

Air Force Searching for Lost Pakistani Plane

BK2508165389 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] A Pakistani airliner with 44 passengers and 5 crew on board disappeared shortly after taking off from an airport in the northern part of the country today.

AFP quoting official sources in Islamabad says the aircraft took off in cloudy skies from Gilgit in the Karakuram mountain range on a flight to Islamabad. The last contact with the plane's pilot was 18 minutes after take off. An emergency has been declared at Gilgit airport and a Pakistan Air Force plane dispatched from Islamabad to carry out a search in the area.

According to an Indian Defense Ministry spokesman in New Delhi, the Indian Air Force is also launching a search and rescue operation on our side at the request of the Pakistan Government.

Center Develops Uranium-233 for Research Reactor

BK2708091689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] The radio-metallurgy division of the Bhabha Atomic Research Center has successfully fabricated Uranium-233 as fuel sub-assembly for the research reactor Kamini. The head of the radio-metallurgy division, Dr Ganguly, told PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] that Kamini is the first reactor of this kind in the world to use U-233-bearing fuel.

Iran

Majlis Debate on Cabinet Begins 27 Aug

LD2608121589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] The government's program and the vote of confidence in the cabinet members has been placed on tomorrow's Majlis agenda.

A Central News Unit correspondent reports the Majlis deputies will start the debate on the suitability of the ministers put forward by the president at tomorrow's open session.

According to this report, in accordance with the Majlis internal regulations, deputies for and against the motion will have 10 hours altogether to express their views. Then the president and any of the ministers will have a total of 5 hours to reply to the views of the deputies.

The Majlis will continue debating the suitability and the program of the proposed ministers at its open sessions for the next 3 consecutive days.

President Opens Debate

LD2708064589 Tehran IRNA in English 0635 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug 27, IRNA—Debate on the proposed cabinet began Sunday with a call from President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Majlis deputies for a fair, non-aligned assessment of his 22 ministers.

"I feel very proud...now the rest is up to you," said the president in his opening remarks.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said he could not ask the Majlis to carry out his wishes without exercising their legal rights but said deputies should also consider the president's non-partisan angle.

He said his ministers were experts in their field and their professional and administrative knowledge were needed in the period of reconstruction.

Any shortcoming in political weight would be compensated by Hashemi-Rafsanjani's own presence.

"I am political as much as you like... With my presence the cabinet would be political enough...I think this cabinet will promote affairs."

"...What I expect from you as a friend is that...you definitely observe the limits (of fairness)."

In his hour-long speech the president gave a brief description of each minister and stressed that they had been selected after wide consultations, especially with leader Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i.

Ministers had been proposed from what Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to as the three main political trends.

"The middle list seemed more comprehensive to me," he said explaining that lists offered by the two other trends had obvious political links.

"Those who are interested in their trend definitely would not like the list I have introduced...because what has value for them is their own candidate.

"But the gentlemen are certainly aware that the president cannot be expected to pay attention to just one direction."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said a significant number of deputies had given their approval to his ministers.

Leader Khamene'i, former Chief Justice Musavi-Ardabili and a large section of the press have urged the Majlis to put the interests of the nation before political considerations.

Khamene'i stressed that no ministry should be without a head for even a day while Musavi-Ardabili said deputies would lose respect if they did not decide fairly.

The law puts a limit of three days on the Majlis debate on the cabinet, at the end of which each minister would receive a separate vote in secret balloting.

To date no cabinet has received a vote confidence from the Majlis with its composition remaining the one orginally introduced.

On his most talked about choice, Hashemi-Rafsanjani assured deputies that he was "very satisfied" by the work carried out by former Interior Minister 'Ali Akhbar Mohtashemi but that 'Abdollah Nuri was a better choice.

"Do not be carried away by the poisonous propaganda of the enemies... Mr Mohtashemi is one of my closest friends and I have known him from many years ago," the president said.

"But in the present circumstances I believe Mr Nuri is best."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Mohtashemi would cooperate closely with his cabinet.

He said he had wanted Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahri to stay on as information minister [as received] but Reyshahri had made up his mind before that he did not want to remain in this post. Reyshahri has been appointed prosecutor general.

The post was then offered to his deputy 'Ali Fallahiyan who had been in the information services since the early days of the revolution and had been confirmed by many.

The president said he was aware of the view of some deputies who believed ministerial positions should only be offered to those who had studied in Iran.

He said studying in American universities was not and is not a negative point, as many who did study abroad had provided valuable services to the country.

Few proposed cabinet members, like previous ministers, have degrees from American universities, including minister of education, minister of higher education, minister of economics and minister of agriculture.

President Explains Choices

LD2708133189 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Our correspondent reports on today's Majlis open session: [Correspondent] The debate on the vote of confidence on the 22 ministers proposed by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani began in the Majlis this morning.

During the session President Hashemi-Rafsanjani outlined the reasons and criteria for the selection of his proposed cabinet. He called on the Majlis deputies to give a vote of confidence to the ministers proposed by him.

He then referred to the future cabinet programs. He said: The programs of the future government are generally based on, and will be implemented in accordance with, the 5-year development plan. If there are any shortcomings in the program, the honorable gentlemen will discuss them during the debate on the 5-year plan.

Regarding the criteria for the selection of his cabinet he said: My decision was based on my personal knowledge. Perhaps you gentlemen would agree that, as a person well-informed about the ministries, the ministers and the country's affairs, I am qualified to select people. In this connection I also consulted the esteemed leader [Khamene'i], who was extremely helpful owing to his involvement in the executive apparatus. In addition to the esteemed leader, I consulted Messrs Musavi-Ardabili, Mir Hoseyn Musavi, ministers and members of the Majlis' committees.

Stressing the fact that he intends to work with all who are faithful to the revolution, he called on the Majlis deputies to give a vote of confidence on the ministers proposed by him. He added: Having acceptable work experience in the revolution was another factor in the selection of the ministers. I believe that people should be not be deprived of the chance to serve because of their affiliation to this or that faction. I intend to maintain a balance in the country's key posts.

The president said: A point I considered extremely important was that the spirit of unity among the people after the passing away of his eminence the imam, stemming from the sense of responsibility felt by the people and the officials, should be preserved.

He finally gave a list of the ministers proposed to the Majlis and outlined their special qualities and programs. He said:

[Begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] This was a summary of the reasons for my selection of these ministers. I am absolutely certain about it. That is, in the eyes of God I have succeeded in deciding what is best for the country and the Islamic revolution, despite all the existing pressures and propaganda. The rest is up to you, the Majlis. I cannot tell you to just trust my decision. You have your own vote and are answerable to God for it. You cannot say or sign anything contrary to your wishes and I expect nothing more from you. However, I merely ask you to put yourselves in my shoes during your debate and voting. That is, forget that you belong to this or that faction and that you must think along certain lines. That would be contrary to the interests of the system at this juncture.

One of my motives was to form an efficient cabinet. Some of you gentlemen will no doubt say, in your debate, that this cabinet is not sufficiently political. I myself am political enough. I was present right at the start of the

struggle and shall be there at the end. I am not a specialist, my presence in the cabinet is purely for political purposes. Specialist tasks will be carried out by these gentlemen. Because of my presence, the cabinet is sufficiently political. At this juncture we need an efficient cabinet. If no war breaks out during the decade of reconstruction, God willing, I believe that this cabinet will be constructive. The whole combination is also constructive for us. [end recording]

[Correspondent] after the president's speech, a number of Majlis deputies expressed their views in favor of, and against, the new cabinet. The next Majlis open session will be held at 0700 tomorrow.

Majlis To Continue Debates

NC2808090089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Studying programs and the competence of the 22 ministers proposed by the president for a vote of confidence will continue during today's Majlis open session.

During yesterday's open session, 11 Majlis deputies gave their views on the proposed ministers and their programs.

Our correspondent reports that the debates on the competence of the ministers will continue in today's session too and that a vote will be taken on President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's cabinet tomorrow after he speaks to the Majlis.

Commentary Examines New Cabinet, Challenges

NC2608120689 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 22 Aug 89 p 3

[Akhundzadeh Basti commentary: "The New Cabinet, the Challenges Ahead"]

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani has finally produced the names of the members of this cabinet and ended a period of rumor and speculation.

The nomination of certain ministers was contrary to the certain predictions that were made by different circles. Indeed in genius democratic society [as published] it is quite natural and one has to be vigilant and confident in choosing the right person for the right job.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani nominees are the best choices as far as the prevailing circumstances and compulsions are concerned. In fact, if the right persons are placed in the right jobs, a part of state obligation towards the society, that is social justice, is fulfilled.

The heroic people of Iran have witnessed in the past the catastrophic results of iniquity and wrong-doing of wrong persons in the wrong jobs.

Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, the newly appointed chief justice in the last Friday sermon has rightly said that everyone has to be susceptible and conscious of his own responsibility. One of the setbacks in the previous constitution was the shield of shared responsibility under which many could justify their wrong doings. The leaders of the Islamic Republic should not allow this to repeat. The judicial system must strongly stop and decisively prevent any discrepancies and offence in the system. Ayatollah Yazdi has rightly compared the judicial system with the heart of a person. The system which is an inherited one is unmannerly and sick. It has to be properly corrected. In fact, the proper conduct of judicial system would not only eradicate injustice and corruption but would help in turn the executive body particularly in the matters related to smooth conduct of foreign policy.

The success of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani cabinet partly lies in the success of Ayatollah Yazdi's task. Indeed they are complementary to one another.

TEHRAN TIMES Assesses Proposed Cabinet

NC2608095689 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 20 Aug 89 p 2

[Editorial: "Old and New Faces in the Cabinet"]

[Text] Yesterday, in the last moments of the official meeting in the Majlis the new speaker read the list of names in the new cabient of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The list included names of the newcomers as well as those from the previous cabinet. There were some familiar names, however, which were not included in this list, among them Behzad Nabavi, 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi and the former prime minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi. The changes in the cabinet are indicative of new developments.

Behzad Nabavi, former minister of heavy industries, who is now questioned by some Majlis deputies for his alleged involvement in the SAIPA scandal, is being replaced by Dr. Nezhad Hoseynyan. Mr. Nabavi was present in every cabinet since the birth of the Islamic revolution and, thus, is one of the most longstanding of all the ministers who has been ousted.

Another figure whose absence in the new cabinet is very noticeable is the former interior minister, 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi. He is being replaced by his colleague Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Abdollah Nuri. The interesting point is that a few hours prior to the introduction of the new cabinet some 136 Majlis deputies had sent a letter to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani urging him to include Mr. Mohtashemi in his cabinet. Nonetheless, when the actual list of ministers came out it was Mr. Nuri whose candidacy was proposed. This, however, is a clear sign of independence and determination on the part of the president and needs more attention.

At the same time political observers who follow the domestic affairs believe that Mr. Nuri will, most certainly, receive overwhelming approval from the Majlis. He is currently serving as the representative of the leader in the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and Jihad

Organization and it is possible that he will resign from these positions once he is approved by the Majlis.

In the case of Mr. Hoseyn Musavi, the situation was somewhat predictable. But it is also expected that the president will use his experience in some other capacity. President Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted in his inaugural presidential speech on Thursday that the experienced forces in the country will be utilized in some other positions.

Dr. Mohsen Nurbakhsh, former head of Iran's Central Bank and currently a Majlis deputy from Tehran, will take over as economics and finance minister. It is expected that the new finance minister has creative and realistic plans for resolving economic deficiencies. There seems to be an urgent need to move away from a centralized economy in order to improve the economic conditions in the second decade of the revolution. What remains for the time being is to wait and watch the arguments between the supporters and opposers of each canditate in the Majlis. An interesting point is that the voting process will be based on secret balloting. This way each representative is guaranteed that his independence, when casting his vote, is secured and will not be subject to be influenced in any way.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Moves to New Quarters

NC2608103289 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 20 Aug 89 pp 1,3

[D. Montazeri report]

[Text] President Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani yesterday silently moved into his new residence without fanfare and straightaway started work as top executive authority of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Earlier President Hashemi-Rafsanjani was living in a house in the north of Tehran. He was neighbor of leader of the Islamic revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, late Imam Khomeyni. Now again he is the neighbor of new leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i with whom he studied and continued his struggle against the despotic regime of the shah.

Both Ayatollah Khamene'i and President Hashemi-Rafsanjani were among those who were the students of the late imam who always considered them as one of his closest aides.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani was also neighbor of the late imam in the pre-revolutionary era in Qom.

The new residence of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani is one of the twin buildings where Ayatollah Khamene'i was living during his tenure as president during the last eight years.

Khamene'i resigned from the post of presidency as he was elected leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran on June 4 after the sad demise of Imam Khomeyni.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani was elected president in July 28 elections with over 95 percent of votes cast in his favor. He is the fourth president of the Islamic Republic of Iran in terms of personality. As far as tenure is concerned he is the fifth president, as Khamene'i was president for two consecutive terms.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani, according to informed sources, remained busy yesterday in studying the overall plan for the country making notes on the projects which need his priority attention.

Yesterday he sent a list of his ministers to the Majlis which many believe can be the best of all other choices.

"The shape of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's cabinet will ultimately decide the future course of his administration," an observer told the TEHRAN TIMES.

"Well, you know unlike what speculation in the foreign media suggest Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani will never compromise with the principles of the Islamic revolution," he said.

He recalled the policy statement of Hashemi-Rafsanjani during the course of oath taking ceremonies in which he vowed not to overstep revolutionary ideals.

"Of course more attention will be paid towards the economy of the country, which is in bad shape," he said, adding, "Now the time is different...there is no war....Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani has more executive powers...he has more money at his disposal...and above all he has cooperation from all possible sides..."

"Now it is natural that Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani should look into matters related to the welfare of the people, a factor which was somewhat neglected because of reasons known to the nation," he said.

He was referring to the war imposed on Iran into which was channeled capital and manpower needed at the war front.

"Iran never liked war and even now as Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said we will avoid war through political means, but if it is imposed again we will defend our country in the way we did during the last eight years," he said.

Musavi-Ardabili Guardians Council Seat Possible

NC2608095289 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 21 Aug 89 p 1

[D. Montazeri report]

[Text] Tehran—Former chief justice Ayatollah 'Abdol Karim Musavi-Ardabili may be appointed a member of the Guardians Council while Information Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Mohammadi-Reyshahri is expected to take over the office of the prosecutor general and Ayatollah Mohammad Mo'men may be picked up as a chief justice, a well-informed source said yesterday.

Insisting on anonymity the source told the TEHRAN TIMES that the several vacant posts are to be filled by leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Judiciary Head Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi.

The source said Ayatollah Khamene'i is considering the appointment for a vacant post in the Guardians Council. The post is vacant as Ayatollah Yazdi has been appointed head of the Judiciary last week.

The Guardians Council is a 12-member committee of 'ulema and the lawyers which has veto power over Parliament to ensure laws do not contradict Islamic principles or the Constitution.

Ayatollah Ardabili was chief justice and after the reorganization of the Judiciary the post is lying vacant.

Ayatollah Yazdi in his capacity as head of the Judiciary has the power to appoint or dismiss the chief justice, prosecutor general and judges, under the revised Constitution which was approved by the people during the course of a referendum on July 28.

The revised Constitution abolished the collective leadership of the Judiciary.

On the post of chief justice it is expected that Ayatollah Mohammad Mo'men is to be appointed by Yazdi. Ayatollah Mo'men is also a member of the Guardians Council. His post is to be filled if he is appointed chief justice.

Information Minister Reyshahri who declined to join the cabinet of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani may be appointed prosecutor general—a post which was being held by Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi Kho'iniha.

The same source said that President Hashemi-Rafsanjani has decided to appoint former justice minister Hasan Habibi as a first vice president. Ayatollah Mohajerani, former deputy prime minister, may be appointed vice president for Parliamentary Affairs.

Musavi-Ardabili Delivers Friday Prayers Sermon

LD2508163389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Second sermon delivered by Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili at Tehran University on 25 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] My second sermon will be very brief. I want to make four points. The first is about the events and martyrdoms relating to next week. [passage omitted] The second point is one which I am reluctant to make. However, I thought, and decided that it would be appropriate for me to point it out. It concerns myself. After weighing the matter I reached the conclusion that I should spend the rest of my life at Qom Seminary. [passage omitted]

There have been a few rumors. A number of friends said to me: Do not do it. If you do you will be separated from the system. I was surprised by what they said. Is Qom Seminary not part of the system? I believe that Qom Seminary is the foundation, the root of the system. The Islamic Republic stems from it, and the system is defended there. Indeed, if a person does not hold an official position, he may not be mentioned in the media. Should everybody be mentioned by the media? Did we set out to get a mention in the media? [passage omitted]

Some people said: If you do this you will be forgotten—as if I should always be in people's minds, from morning to noon. [passage omitted] I myself, while continuing to serve in Qom Seminary, will also keep a close watch on the system, and wherever I feel there is a need, a task, a responsibility in need of attention, but without anyone to shoulder it, I, with my fragile and feeble shoulders, will attend to it. [chanting]

One of the issues in my sermon is that of the honorable and dedicated Islamic Consultative Assembly. Our imam graciously said that the Majlis is the most important of affairs. This Majlis is highly honorable, as well as very dear, respectable, and praiseworthy. We cast our votes and sent representatives to this Majlis. Therefore, we should support and respect them. The serenity of the Majlis should be maintained. The independence of the Majlis should be maintained. The freedom of the representatives should be maintained. These gentlemen are honorable, and so are their ideas, votes, and opinions. If we fail to do as much as this, not only have we failed to go one step forward, but instead we will be going seven steps back. This cannot be debated.

There is, however, no inconsistency in my giving a brotherly admonition to them. I give a brotherly admonition to my brothers and sisters in the Majlis. Gentlemen, however honorable the Majlis may be—it may be the seat of the prophet—however dear you may be, and held dear by the people as their representatives, nevertheless, God willing, it is up to you to uphold the respectability of that place. Do not forget that you are occupying the same seat as Seyyed Hasan Modaress [religious figure killed by Reza Shah Pahlavi's government]. You have replaced characters like Mo'atamed-ol Molk [Majlis representative from Reza Shah period]

You should not—God forbid—follow carnal desires and wicked thoughts—which are not very Islamic—factionalism and—let me be direct—power politics, and so forth. If such be the case, then the Majlis loses respect. You must keep God in your mind, and let your conscience govern your actions. You must deal with issues courageously. The system needs an individual's capability, skill, ability, efficiency, and wisdom. Whether or not we share the same opinion, whether or not we are of the same faction, let nothing else interfere in our decisionmaking. The people support you, and they have pinned their hopes on you. If, God forbid, you deviate a little from Islamic principles, then you will forfeit that support, at least in the depth of their souls.

Next week is the week of destiny. It is the week for voting for the government. Those individuals who have been suggested by the honorable president of our country have already proved themselves, just as his excellency has proved himself. God willing, while maintaining courage and liberty, you will keep in mind the Islamic criteria as well as efficiency, skill, and capability. Furthermore, God forbid that other things, such as temptations, interfere with your work. God willing, it is expected of you. This was my admonition to our dear brothers and sisters.

Now I turn to the current events, which constitute my last admonition. It is related to Lebanon and Palestine, to our brothers who are losing their lives there under fire. Every day the news is about their martyrs, their injured, and their glories. Our hearts are filled with blood. Our eyes are filled with hope. We wish we had the capabilities to enable us to assist alongside them in their struggles which are dedicated to God. I say, brothers, sisters, who are in Lebanon and Palestine, you should know that your victory is a certainty. [chanting] This is a good omen.

Mr Mitterrand, with all his conceit and ballyhoo announces: I am going into Lebanon to rescue French nationals, establish security, put an end to the chaos, and so forth. Nevertheless, in the face of the decisions of those individuals who hold ideals, God, Islam, and glory dearer than their lives, they announce: We will fight if you come; do not go further than 300 kms. Even Mollah Nasreddin [legendery Iranian clown] never went back on his word. [passage omitted] Mollah Nasreddin never went back on his word, while he [Mitterrand] did, and very quickly, too. At least be like Mollah Nasreddin. [passage omitted]

I, as a citizen, and as a Muslim, send a message to those brothers and sisters from this platform. Brothers, sisters, you should know that the revolutionary Iran is behind you, and we deem it necessary to share your sorrows and joys at all stages. [crowd chants support]

Further on Sermon

LD2508114889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] The Friday prayers sites throughout the country, today as on previous Fridays, witnessed the presence of those in love with God and the guardians of the fort of unity and piety.

The political-religious Friday prayers in Tehran were held at Tehran University and the adjacent streets with the massive presence of the monotheist and Hezbollah people, under the leadership of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili.

In his prayer sermons Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili praised the anniversary of the martyrdom of His Holiness Zeyn ol-'Abedin, peace be on him, the fourth imam and leader of the world Shiites; he then asked for God's blessings for Martyr Raja'i, Martyr Bahonar, and all other martyrs of the Islamic revolution and the imposed war.

Continuing his remarks he said: I have decided henceforth to serve at the Qom Seminary because I believe that it is both the basis of the regime and its head. Since the Islamic revolution sprang from here, its defense is also situated at the Qom Seminary.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili stressed: It is among the necessary duties and imperatives to be at the service of the seminary and theology. Everybody, with whatever strength he may have, must serve the seminaries. As to myself, while God willing I will continue to serve in Qom, I will continue to be also at the service of the revolution and the regime anywhere the need may arise.

Referring to the start of work on investigating the cabinet presented President Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the Majlis, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said: Since the imam, may he be admitted to God's paradise, has stressed that the Majlis is in the lead of affairs, the honorable representatives must be aware that the Majlis has a lofty position in the Islamic revolution. You must be on guard lest, God forbid, you may become subject to carnal desires and incorrect thoughts which are un-Islamic. You must not allow yourselves to be enslaved by factionalism and power politics.

In your investigation of ministers, who have been presented, you must keep God in mind and allow your conscience to govern. While observing Islamic guidelines you must investigate the issues courageously; to do so you must keep in mind only the individuals' efficiency, capability, and wisdom.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili also referred to the blood stained events in Lebanon. Expressing regret for such events, he said: The struggles in defense of the rights of the Lebanese and Palestinian strugglers are so solid and strong that they have forced the French president to retreat from his position. Most certainly they are the victors in that battle.

Addressing the Palestinian and Lebanese Muslim brothers and sisters, he stressed in conclusion: You must regard revolutionary Iran as being on your side. We, too, believe it our duty to share in your sorrows and happiness.

Majlis Official on Cabinet's Electoral Procedures

LD2608184689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Interview with Second Vice Speaker of the Majlis Asadollah Bayat by unidentified correspondent in Tehran on 26 August—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] To give the vote of confidence, the Majlis will begin the debate on the suitability of the ministers whose names have been put forward by the

president, in the open session tomorrow, Sunday 27 August. I ask Mr Bayat, the Majlis's second vice speaker to elaborate on the manner of investigating the suitability of those ministers, and on the vote of confidence.

[Bayat] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Majlis agenda—in connection with the investigation on the suitability, efficiency, and projects of the ministers whose names have been put forward by the president—will begin at 0730 hours [0400 GMT] tomorrow morning. In accordance with our past regulation, which has changed slightly at this stage, we will not have a pre-agenda speech tomorrow. Following Koranic recitations, those for and against the motion will begin their debates in accordance with the text of the regulations and with the authority vested in them by the Majlis regulations and the law. Each session will last 5 hours, and those for and against the motion will have 10 hours altogether to express their views. The regulation stipulates speeches by 20 representatives, 10 for and 10 against the motion. In the past, only those favoring the motion were allowed to express their views, even though they may have opposed some representatives or projects. However, under the present regulation, those for and those against enjoy the freedom to express the reasons for being in favor of those individuals or projects with which they agree, or against those individuals they oppose. These two sessions are exclusive to the representatives, to enable them to express their views in total freedom. After 2 days, that is, after the completion of 10 hours, the third 5 hours which are given on the 3d day, are exclusive to the honorable president, and those ministers whose characters, projects or efficiency, have been questioned by the honorable Majlis representatives. They, in accordance with their own drawn-out timetable, have the right to use those 5 hours—and after 3 consecutive days of Majlis sessions, the voting will be allowed to commence.

[Correspondent] Does the voting in connection with each of the ministers, take place separately of cumulatively? Furthermore, is the balloting open or secret?

[Bayat] Here, the regulation, has fortunately made both points clear. The voting is individual and not cumulative, each minister has a separate vote. In the past both individual and cumulative voting were allowed but the present regulation has been amended to invidual voting instead of cumulative. It is obligatory that the balloting should not be open, but secret. Under the past regulations, the voting was done openly, while in accordance with the present regulation—which has been sanctioned and approved by the Council of Guardians—the balloting is secret.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

Majlis Committee Head on U.S. Policy, Hostages

NC2608094789 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 22 Aug 89 p 2

[Text] Head of Majlis Foreign Affairs Commission, Raja'i-Khorasani said he was "not in the least expressing any kind of sympathy with American policy nor was he condoling the death of U.S. Lieutenant Colonel William Higgins," who was executed in Lebanon July 31, in reprisal for the kidnapping of a Lebanese 'Alim [scholar] by Israel.

Khorasani denied this week the statements attributed to him in an editorial carried by an English daily (not the TEHRAN TIMES) wherein it was alleged that Khorasani had "condemned" the execution of the American and suggested that he was thus "expressing sympathy with the policies of the United States."

He said that this was "far from the truth and far from what he had actually intended when he said that the killing of the American colonel was indeed a regrettable matter."

"Even now I daresay that I am not happy with his killing," Khorasani said adding that "most people in Lebanon who are certainly most antagonistic to Zionist crimes in that country, in all probability would have reacted as I did in this matter."

Khorasani also said that he quite explicitly has condemned the act of kidnapping of the Lebanese Shiite 'Alim by the Zionists—the main motive behind the execution—and he expected the English daily to "correct its views and represent issues more honestly than in the fashion they had done."

Clerics Say Iran-U.S. Differences Irreconcilable

LD2608105889 Tehran IRNA in English 1031 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 26, IRNA—"U.S. hostility towards us and the irreconcilable nature of our revolution and people do not stem from a political misunderstanding that could be eliminated with negotiations, or by threatening or luring America," a clerical group has said.

The Association of Combatant Clerics in a statement published Saturday stressed differences were rooted in "the criminal nature of America" on the one hand and "the divine and popular foundation of the Islamic Revolution on the other."

The group praised leader Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i's recent statement rejecting talks with Washington so long as the White House continued to base its foreign policy on lies and deceit and support for Israel.

It also called on people to support Khamene'i and President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani's guidelins for "continuation of the Imam (Khomeyni's) line and the protection of the high ideals of the Islamic Revolution."

The statement said those who spoke of the possibility of a compromise between the Islamic Republic and the U.S. were ignorant of the "nature of (Western) arrogance".

It added that such remarks were aimed by Iran's enemies to destroy the genuine nature of the revolution.

It quoted the late Imam Khomeyni's who said "Iran will never stretch its hand towards the U.S. unless it dies."

Mohtashemi Condemns 'Global Arrogance,' Zionists

LD2608190789 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Qom, Central Prov., Aug. 26, IRNA—A street was named in this holy city after the Lebanese Muslim combatant Martyr Shaykh Hussayn As'ad Borru [name as received] during a ceremony here today. Shaykh Borru killed a group of Zionists in an attack early this month. Speaking on the occasion, the outgoing Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi hailed Borru's brave action and said Muslim revolutionary people of Lebanon will, under no circumstances, fear plots hatched by the global arrogance and the Zionist regime. He also praised "decisive stands" of Muslim Lebanese forces against aggressive policy of the French Government. "Disgraceful withdrawal of the French fleet from Lebanese waters is a great pride for Lebanese Muslim combatants," he said.

French Warships in 'Retreat' From Lebanon

LD2508140289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Excerpts] The commander of the Lebanese National Army connected to Major General Sami al-Khatib in West Beirut has issued an announcement saying that it, opened fire at a ship which was approaching the coastal banks of (Dubayy) in east Beirut at dusk today.

Meanwhile following the increasing threats by the Islamic and national forces of Lebanon, France yesterday beat a retreat from the coast of Lebanon. France guided its naval forces toward the apparently safe waters in the east Mediterranean.

Our correspondent reports:

[Correspondent] The Lebanese Islamic and national forces through their decisive stand, succeeded to force France to retreat from its position and to review the warships' dispatch to the coast of Lebanon. [passage omitted]

According to political sources in Beirut, France will continue its retreat from its military and political positions and will pull out more of its naval forces from the Mediterranean within the next few days and also will reduce the duration of other ships' deployment off the coast of Lebanon.

These sources do not rule out the French Government giving financial assistance to all forces inside Lebanon in order to satisfy Islamic and national forces in Lebanon and also to reduce their wrath.

France has lost its chance of having a role in Lebanon acceptable to every side because of its dispatch of naval forces to the coast of Lebanon. Instead of being in a position to attack, France is now in a defensive situation. [passage omitted]

Editorial Warns West To Stay Out of Lebanon

NC2508114789 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 22 Aug 89 p 2

[Editorial: "West Had Better Keep Out of Lebanon"]

[Text] A French aircraft carrier, the Foch, is said to be streaming into the Eastern Mediterranean to join a fleet of other French ships there and the movement is being seen as a positive French response to the Lebanese Christian, General Michel 'Awn's request for French help. An unknown Lebanese underground organization, said to hold American hostages, in the meantime, has said that any French military intervention in Lebanon can put the lives of the hostages they hold at risk.

French President Francois Mitterand has made it clear that the French action does not mean military intervention, but the fact remains that the presence of French naval forces in Lebanese waters can intensify and perhaps escalate military and political tensions in civil war ravaged Lebanon.

France is no doubt using the pretext of its historical presence in Lebanon to justify a right to meddle in Lebanese affairs. But this ignores the fact that such a motive is an infringement of Lebanese sovereignty. As a result, taking the present touchy circumstances in Lebanon into account, one can only expect further deterioration in the politico-military tensions and the consequent intensification of the 14-year-old battles in Beirut.

Hence it is nothing but proper that we and all concerned for peace in Lebanon should condemn any kind of French involvement in the Lebanese scenario. What can happen if anything does go wrong as a result of miscalculated French moves is most unpredictable—in fact it is our feeling that it can only lead to an expansion of political tensions in Lebanon irrespective of whoever is to blame for what it has come to now. France by even appearing to take an interest can only cause bottlenecks which will put further off any humanitarian endeavors possible to ease tensions in the Lebanese maze.

The West of course should pursue efforts and use all diplomatic means to contain the Lebanese crisis and should avoid resort to arms. It is only in this way that humanitarian moves to resolve the hostage crisis can be taken, particularly in Lebanon. The West also should understand that any partiality to 'Awn or military action on his behalf, will only make it much more difficult for

Iran or any other country willing to help for huanitarian reasons to help actively and will have no inclination to do so.

Finally, the West surely should refer to its past experience and realize that any provocation given to the Lebanese people and groups operating there will definitely pave the way for a recurrence of the regrettable events such as the Colonel Higgins hanging and other catastrophes for which the West will have to hold itself responsible.

The best solution to the long drawn out deadlock in Lebanon is to prepare the groundwork for free elections giving the right to choose what they wish to have to the Lebanese people themselves.

Paper Calls on Muslims To Attack French Interests

LD2608065789 Tehran IRNA in English 0654 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug 26, IRNA—Muslims should take action against the presence of French warships in Lebanese waters by attacking French interests, an Iranian daily said Saturday [26 August].

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI first advice was for Islamic states to take joint action against France but added that Jihad forces around the world should attack French interests inside and outside France.

"France should not be safe from the attacks of Muslim Jihad forces inside French soil and in all other countries," it stressed in an editorial.

"Bullying governments such as France are only familiar with the language of coercion and world Muslims can only make aggressors regret their actions by using it," it concluded.

It said the presence in support of the illegal Maronite government of Michel 'Awn was further complicating the crisis in war-torn Lebanon.

"The Maronites, international Zionism and their allies work to detach Lebanon, where Muslims are the majority,...from the Islamic community and create a Zionist and imperialist ally," JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI said.

France had sent in its fleet on behalf of the U.S. to counter the growing strength of Muslim and nationalist forces.

"Though this is not the first direct intervention which surely will receive another humiliating answer from the Muslims, the Islamic community must fulfill its responsibility in this crucial time," the paper added.

France had no right to intervene in Lebanon's domestic affairs and its recent move must receive a strong reaction from world Muslims, it said.

Use of Soviet Planes for Domestic Flights

NC2508114189 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 20 Aug 89 p 3

[Report by N. Karimi]

[Text] Iran will use Soviet passenger planes in its domestic flights, an informed source said yesterday.

The source talking on condition of anonymity further added that in view of heavy traffic in Iranian domestic flights, the possibility of barter deal and the economical price of Russian planes, Aseman [domestic flights company] will possibly use Soviet passenger planes, aeronautic equipments aviation and facilities.

An IRNA report Friday [18 August] quoting Deputy Road and Transport Minister and Civil Aviation Chief Mohammad Nabi Habibi denied any plan by the Iranian Civil Aviation delegation to Moscow to purchase Soviet passenger planes. However, it had noted that "any possible purchase of Soviet aircrafts or mutual aviation cooperation would depend on a careful study of the Soviet potential in the field."

Envoy to Japan Comments on Petrochemical Project

NC2608110989 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 21 Aug 89 p 3

[TEHRAN TIMES City Desk report]

[Text] Tehran—The President of Japan trading giant Mitsui, Ijiri will visit Tehran soon to finalize talks on the stalled multibillion dollar joint project, Irano-Japan Petrochemical company (IJPC), said an Iranian diplomat here recently.

Talking to the TEHRAN TIMES, Iran's Ambassador to Japan, Dr Mohammad Hoseyn 'Adeli elaborated on the new plan of the Iranian Government to revive and complete the petrochemical project at the Persian Gulf Port of Imam Khomeyni, as well as the IJPC'S thorny issue.

To 'Adeli, Japan has announced its willingness to withdraw from IJPC whereas Iran intends to reconstruct and reactivate the project.

"In his meetings with the Japanese delegation to Iran at the special ceremonies held on the 40th day of the demise of Imam Khomeyni, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed on finalization of negotiations between Iranian and Japanese partners on this issue," 'Adeli said. He further went on to add that "President Hashemi-Rafsanjani believes the finalization of IJPC talks will undoubtedly have a determining effect on the future relations between Iran and Japan."

'Adeli outlined Hashemi-Rafsanjani's viewpoints on the IJPC joint project as follows:

1) Finalization of talks on further cooperation in the project without wasting further time since almost all the

technical, industrial and economic debates and consultations in this respect have already been held.
2) Giving top priority to resolving the thorny issue of IJPC considering Japan's overall cooperation programs in Iran's post-war reconstruction plans.

In another development Dr 'Adeli said that in his recent trip to Japan, he had held special negotiations with Japan's top officials including those of Foreign Ministry, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) as well as Mitsui, wherein he stresed President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's views on the stalled project in Iran. Japanese officials, he said, had expressed their readiness to conclude talks on the project as soon as possible.

According to the program Dr 'Adeli added, Iran's National Petrochemical Company (NPC) and Mitsui began talks sometime before on the matter. Following these negotiations, Mitsui's officials and his NPC counterpart met and consequently Japanese side accepted to pay approximately U.S. $125 billion to Iran for the settlement of their account and to withdraw their partnership. Iran's basic position is to continue the partnership on the basis of a basic agreement. Sources say the figure is crucial to convince the Iranian side to accept the withdrawal. Iran has not yet accepted such a figure.

As far as the joint cooperation in post-war reconstruction plans in Iran is concerned, the Iranian ambassador termed the prospect of future ties between Tehran and Tokyo as "positive". He also called President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's election as well as the latest changes in Iran's constitution as valuable factors in maintaining "favorable" ties between the two countries. Dr 'Adeli noted that the reconstruction and development of Iran has a direct impact on the overall development of the Persian Gulf region and all countries of the region will benefit from it.

Plans To Purchase Arms From Italy Denied

LD2608095689 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 26, IRNA—There are no talks at present on the purchase of Italian arms by Iran despite Rome's agreement to deliver some dozen military helicopters ordered before the Islamic revolution, the Italian ambassador in Tehran said.

"To my knowledge there are no contacts or discussions going on for the time being concerning selling of helicopters or new weapons to Iran," said Vittorio Farinelli.

He added that if Iran requested new arms the response from Italy was uncertain. "It is very difficult to say whether we shall say yes or no to such a question."

In an interview published in Saturday's KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL he said 11 to 13 helicopters and "quite a large amount" of helicopter spare parts whose delivery was banned during the Iraqi war had now been ordered to be handed over to Iran.

He did not specify their type but they are believed to be Chinook transporters built by Italy's Agusta Company.

The ban was lifted in January following Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi's visit to Rome.

Farinelli described overall relations with Iran as "quite good" especially in trade and economic cooperation.

But trade in 1989 was looked to be lower than last year which amounted to dlrs 925 million (dlrs 374 mn Italian exports, dlrs 551 mn Iranian exports).

So far this year Italy has imported dlrs 255 million from Iran and exported dlrs 196 million, the ambassador said.

Italian firms were involved in a number of major development projects including the Mubarakeh steel complex near Esfahan.

Italy's GGI Company has won agreements to build two power stations, and another Italian firm has been contracted to build Iran's 7th refinery in Arak.

Also in Arak Italian companies are to take part in the construction of a petrochemical plant, and will build an olefin producing plant in Tabriz, northwest Iran.

The contract for laying the IGAT-II gas pipeline has been awarded to Italian firms who are also busy building an oil pipeline along the Persian Gulf coast and carrying out construction work at Kharq Island, Iran's main oil export terminal, the ambassador said.

The Italian presence at the Tehran trade fair next month would be larger compared to last year.

"Initially we thought participation was going to be like last year but the number of Italian firms that want to take part has proved to be greater than was forcast by us," Farinelli said. Twenty-six different companies had so far applied, including Fiat which would display heavy construction equipment.

The participants cover mainly mechanical industries and machine tools for the plastics sector and the construction industry. But there were also firms which offered textiles, information systems and computers.

But the ambassador said there were problems facing some firms whose exhibition products had met snags at the Bazargan border customs point in northwest Iran.

If the problems were not solved the material would not reach the fair on time, he said.

Official Announces Boycott of IPU London Meeting

LD2608160789 Tehran IRNA in English 1515 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 26, IRNA—The Islamic Republic of Iran will not take part in the 82nd session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in protest to Britain's

anti-Islamic stance vis-a-vis publication of "The Satanic Verses." The IPU's six-day conference is to open in London on Sept. 4.

Head of the executive council of Iran's interparliamentary group Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi Khamene'i announced the above in a letter to president of interparliamentary council Daouda Sow. [name as received]

The decision was made just because the IPU conference is to be held in Britain, Khamene'i elaborated.

The author of "The Satanic Verses" Salman Rushdie was sentenced to death by the late leader of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni for slandering Islam and sanctities of Muslims.

Elsewhere, the letter stressed the British Government has not only insisted on supporting the apostate author but still persists in publishing and selling the book under the excuse of "freedom of expression."

IPU holds two conferences annually in spring and autumn bringing together MPs of 110 interparlamentary groups to discuss the latest political, economic, and social developments around the globe.

The head of Iran's interparliamentary group said participation of representatives of Muslim countries in the conference would mean "ignoring Britain's role in this catastrophic event and neglecting the insult made against the Islamic sanctities."

Diplomatic Training Facilities To Be Expanded

NC2608100789 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 21 Aug 89 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] Tehran—Iran's scientific and cultural relations with other countries will be expanded for training needed diplomats of the Foreign Ministry, the Principal of the College for International Relations of the Foreign Ministry 'Alireza Deyhim said yesterday.

Speaking to the TEHRAN TIMES in an exclusive interview, 'Alireza Deyhim, who holds a Ph.D. in international relations from West Germany said the College of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was established on November 1981 after approval by the Council of Ministers to train needed diplomats. [passage omitted]

On the facilities of the College for the International Relations Deyhim said "we have the best audio-lingual and computerized systems available for students. Some of our lessons are taught in English and the college uses both Iranian and foreign instructors."

Elsewhere in the interview he said "every year a number of our students are sent to the open sessions of the United Nations in New York for practical training."

In addition to the three libraries, the college library, the library at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and one at the Institute for Political and International Studies, the students can use many foreign periodicals in English, French, and Arabic," the principal of the college said.

On the future plans of the college, the principal said the college activities will be expanded by establishing new branches for studies on international institutions and consulate law, which will be inaugurated after the approval by the Board of Trustees.

Daily Approves New Emphasis on Economic Policy

LD2808112489 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 28, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi- Rafsanjani's program of non-partisan economic, social and cultural development has been welcomed by a daily newspaper.

The English-language KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL said the new cabinet and its program point that it "intends to consolidate the Islamic Republic's political orientation by improving its economic health..."

The paper [said] that after changes in political institutions in a society produced their desired impact, a shift in attention to economic welfare will ensure their continued existence.

Iran is now at this critical stage and leader Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i and President Hashemi-Rafsanjani "are determined to demonstrate to the world that the Islamic revolution is a multi- faceted and an organic revolution, capable of serving and elevating iran."

It agreed that the nature of the Islamic revolution demands that "concurrent with political and cultural changes, measures be instituted to improve the economic strength of the society because of domestic or international expectations or fulfilment."

"At the time of its inception, a revolution needs to demonstrate its political presence with the changes that it imposes.... But following that... it gets to strengthen itself by trying to put into action its economic, cultural and social plans for a better quality of life," KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL said.

Drug Ring Identified, Arrested in Varamin

LD2308203789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Committee Guards of Tehran's second district identified and arrested the members of a narcotics procurement and distribution ring. In addition to discovering 22 kg of opium in the gang's possession, 7 vehicles, 14 million rials in cash, and $500 were also confiscated from them and recorded.

Also, with the discovery of a narcotics smuggling gang in Varamin, nine of its members were arrested. According to an IRNA report, 9.3 kg of opium were discovered from this gang and those arrested were handed over to judicial authorities along with their files.

Drug Traffickers Arrested in Sistan va Baluchestan

LD2308204689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] Through the efforts of the Guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee, 280 kilogrammes of narcotics were discovered during this week in the province of Sistan va Baluchestan and a number of the merchants of death were arrested and handed over to judicial authorities.

According to the IRNA, the selfless Guards of the Islamic Revolution Committee's antinarcotics bureau in the province, implementing the maneuvers of the second stage of the Val-'Adiyat project, succeeded—in three stages of operations—in identifying and arresting three professional smugglers and uncovering 170 kilogrammes of opium and 10 kilogrammes of heroin. Also, in arresting a number of smugglers in the township of Iranshahr an amount of 200 kilogrammes of opium were discovered. This report states that in this same week, 170 addicts in Sistan va Baluchestan Province were arrested.

Nepal

India's External Affairs Minister Rao Pays Visit

Holds 'Cordial' Talks With Shrestha

BK2608032689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] India and Nepal have expressed hope and confidence about an early resolution of all pending issues relating to Indo-Nepal relations. AIR [All India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent, Harish Segon, reports that this emerged at the end of the discussions of the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, with the prime minister, Mr Marich Man Singh Shrestha, and the foreign minister of Nepal, Mr S.K. Upadhyaya, in Kathmandu today. Our correspondent adds that the highlight of Mr Rao's visit was his meeting with King Birendra.

Briefing newsmen, an Indian official spokesman expressed confidence that this will pave the way for a meeting between King Birendra and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, at Belgrade soon.

At the meeting between Mr Narasimha Rao and the Nepalese prime minister, Mr Shrestha, besides current bilateral issues, the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] summit at Belgrade was also discussed. Mr Shrestha showed keen interest in the panchayati raj [village council] schemes being implemented in India.

The two foreign ministers were together for about an hour. The two leaders first met in the presence of senior officials and later without aides. Both the meetings were held in a most cordial, friendly, and warm atmosphere. These were marked by goodwill and openness on both sides. Our correspondent, Sushil Chopra, reports that this visit of Mr Rao has generated a sense of hope among the people of Nepal about an early solution of bilateral issues between the two countries.

Earlier, on his arrival in Kathmandu, Mr Rao told a crowded press conference that his visit is in a spirit of true friendship and hoped that these sentiments are reciprocated in full measure. He said bonds that bind the two countries are permanent and strong; while the problems that occasionally arise are temporary, if irritating.

He made it clear that India has always been in favor of a frank and comprehensive dialogue on all outstanding issues. India's goal is to have a relationship with Nepal free from distortions and misconceptions, and one which is reciprocal and mutually beneficial. He regretted that our efforts in recent times have not succeeded to the extent desired, and said that it would be a matter of satisfaction if that phase comes to an end now. Mr Narasimha Rao said the two sides must talk to each other directly, with candor.

Speaks With King Birendra

BK2608033689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] King Birendra of Nepal and the [Indian] external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, have had extensive and very useful discussions in Kathmandu last night. In a brief statement this morning, Mr Narasimha Rao said that they exchanged ideas on a number of important topics with a view to exploring ways and means of strengthening Indo-Nepal relations. AIR [All India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent, Harish Segon, reports that the talks between King Birendra and Mr Narasimha Rao were marked by cordiality and understanding in the true tradition of Indo-Nepal friendship.

Last night, the foreign minister of Nepal, Mr Upadhyaya, hosted a dinner in honor of Mr Narasimha Rao.

Mr Rao will be leaving for home this morning.

Departs After 'Successful' Visit

BK2608064889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Excerpt] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has expressed confidence that something concrete will come out of his Kathmandu visit.

Talking to newsmen at the airport before his departure for New Delhi, Mr Rao described his visit as good and successful. Asked if he was hopeful of a breakthrough, the minister replied he thought so. Replying to another question whether his visit has cleared the atmosphere for high-level talks, he said he is sure it has. Mr Rao said he was very much satisfied with his talks with the Nepalese leaders. Asked if any agreement has been reached, Mr Rao replied: We have agreed to agree.

The Nepalese foreign minister, Mr Upadhyaya, told newsmen at the airport after seeing off Mr Rao that the

two sides have agreed to continue the dialogue further. He said an early solution will be in the interest of Nepal.

Earlier, in a brief statement, Mr Narasimha Rao said that he has had an extensive and very useful discussion with King Birendra. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Leaves for Nonaligned Meeting

BK2708113089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1116 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Kathmandu, Aug 27 (AFP)—Nepalese Foreign Minister Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya left here Sunday [27 August] on his way to a non-aligned meeting in Belgrade where he will try to resolve trade differences with India, officials said.

Mr Upadhyaya was scheduled to stop over in Bangkok before arriving in the Yugoslav capital for a non-aligned ministerial meeting beginning Wednesday.

King Birendra will represent Nepal at the non-aligned summit September 4-7. The king will leave here Friday for Istanbul on his way to Belgrade.

Mr Upadhyaya, speaking to journalists before his departure, confirmed that he would hold informal talks in Belgrade with India's Minister for External Affairs P.V. Narashimha Rao focusing on ways of solving a bitter trade and transit dispute that has strained relations between the two countries.

Mr Upadhyaya said he hoped the meeting would lead to renewed dialogue between the two governments with a view to resolving differences over several bilateral problems.

Mr Rao visited Nepal earlier this week to prepare the ground for a summit between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and King Birendra when the two leaders are in Belgrade for the non-aligned conference.

Relations between the two Hindu-dominated nations deteriorated sharply after the trade and transit pacts were allowed to lapse amid conflicting postures on what the new arrangements should be.

Upcoming Gandhi-Birendra Summit Welcomed

BK2708145989 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] The forthcoming meeting between the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and King Birendra of Nepal in Belgrade on the 4th of next month has been widely welcomed in the Himalayan Kingdom. Political observers and intellectuals in Kathmandu expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the discussions of the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, with the king and other leaders of Nepal. They stressed that relations between the two countries should be normalized at the earliest.

Pakistan

UN Chief Concerned Over Afghan Situation

BK2608084289 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] The UN secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, plans to confer with chief delegates of Pakistan and the Kabul regime at the NAM [Nonaligned Movement] summit in Belgrade next month in an effort to promote a settlement of the Afghan issue. APP [ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN] quoting officials at the United Nations says the secretary general is deeply concerned over the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan where mujahidin have intensified their activities to dislodge Najibullah regime.

Meanwhile, Yugoslavia as the host country of the NAM summit has circulated a draft resolution under which NAM leaders will be called for fresh efforts for a peaceful settlement in Afghanistan on the basis of the consistent and complete implementation of the Geneva agreements. As already announced the Pakistani delegation at the summit will be lead by senior federal minister, Begum Nusrat Bhutto. The meeting which opens on the 4th of next month is scheduled to continue for 4 days.

Minister Returns From Moscow, Cited on Talks

BK2708084489 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] The minister of state for information and broadcasting, Mr Javed Jabbar, has said his visit to the Soviet Union is a step forward in the process of developing a friendly bilateral relationship with that country. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad this morning after his 4-day visit to Moscow, he said the Soviet side has also expressed the hope that the visit may prove a positive step in the way of achieving a breakthrough in their bilateral relationship.

The Soviet deputy foreign minister, Mr Komplektov, during a meeting with Mr Javed Jabbar told him that the Soviet Union is observing the situation in Pakistan with great attention following the taking over by the new democratic government. He spelt out in detail his country's point of view on Afghanistan.

The minister of state for information and broadcasting pointed out that there had been no bilateral discussion on Afghanistan since Soviet Foreign Minister Mr Shevardnadze's visit to Pakistan. It was very useful for Pakistan to note the exposition by the Soviet Union. He said he stated Pakistan's viewpoint and assured the Soviet side that the substance of the talks on Afghanistan would be conveyed to the prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto.

BBC Notes 2 Americans Aboard Missing Plane

BK2608043289 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 26 Aug 89

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] A passenger plane with 54 people on board has disappeared in Pakistan near the border with India. An all-day search in the mountains south of the town of Gilgit failed to turn up any sign of the aircraft belonging to Pakistan's national airlines, which was on its way to the capital, Islamabad. From there (Phil Jones) sent this report:

[Begin (Jones) recording] The flight took off from the mountainous airfield at Gilgit, high on the Karakoram Range, on time and on its way to Islamabad. But within 10 minutes it lost radio contacts, and that was the last (?word) anyone heard from it. On board were 49 passengers, including 5 infants, and a 5-strong crew. It is reported that among those aboard were two Americans—a young woman and a 27-year-old freelance journalist recently arrived in Pakistan.

A big search and rescue operation was mounted on both sides of the disputed border between India and Pakistan in case the plane strayed into Indian airspace. But, according to Pakistan airlines officials, no sign of the missing plane—a twin-engine Fokker F-27—has been found. That type of airplane has been following the routes between the mountain tops of Gilgit and Islamabad for something like 20 years, with only two crashes during that time.

Air Force transports, Army helicopters, and United Nations personnel there to monitor the 40-year-old cease-fire line between Indian and Pakistani Kashmir also took part in the search operations, which were eventually called off without success when darkness fell. They will resume with (?first) light, weather permitting.

Meanwhile, unconfirmed reports that a low-flying aircraft was heard in the vicinity of the Pakistani-Indian border near the town of (Khel) followed by a loud bang are now being checked out. [end recording]

Plane Presumably on Nanga Parbat

BK2708135289 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Six sorties by the PAF [Pakistan Air Force], PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] army aviation and [word indistinct] aircraft were conducted today to locate the missing PIA Fokker, but there was no trace of the aircraft (?as) yet.

PIA sources told a Radio Pakistan representative this evening that the search covered the Indus Valley, the Astor Valley, the (Sovian) Valley and some parts of Nanga Parbat. Two British trekkers, who (?reportedly) saw the PIA Fokker near one of the glaciers at the foot of the Nanga Parbat this morning, have also volunteered to join the search parties tomorrow. All efforts are continuing and the air and ground search will be resumed tomorrow morning. PIA sources say the Inspector General of Frontier Corps has offered the services of 700 jawans [soldiers] to assist in the ground search operations. The jawans will join the operations from tomorrow.

Sri Lanka Minister Delivers Letter to Ishaq Khan

BK2308090089 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 23 Aug 89

[Text] The minister for trade and shipping of Sri Lanka, Mr A.R. Mansoor, called on the president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in Islamabad today and delivered to him a letter from the Sri Lankan president, Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa. They exchanged views on bilateral relations and regional situation.

Yaqub Khan Hosts Dinner for Maldives' Jameel

BK2408023289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 24 Aug 89

[Text] Pakistan firmly believes that the developing countries of the South Asian region can expedite the pace of their economic growth by cooperating with one another. This was stated by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan at the dinner he hosted in honor of his Maldivian counterpart, Mr Fathullah Jameel, in Islamabad last night. He expressed satisfaction that cooperation between Pakistan and the Maldives is improving. He lauded the constructive role played by Jameel in promoting the objectives of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

In his reply, the Maldivian foreign minister said Pakistan and the Maldives hold identical views on several regional and international issues and there are extensive opportunities for both countries to work together.

Bhutto Sends Message to New Polish Premier

BK2708035089 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has commended the Polish people's courageous struggle for the accomplishment of democratic aspirations. In a message of felicitations to new Polish Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki on assuming the office of chairman of the Council of Ministers, the prime minister said that the success of the Polish people's struggle is a historic event. Benazir Bhutto said that Pakistani people carried out a similar struggle for the restoration of their democratic rights and independence.

She expressed good wishes on behalf of the Pakistani people and the elected government to the new Polish prime minister, wishing him success in fulfilling his major responsibilities. Benazir Bhutto offered to work together with Poland in order to further strengthen the cordial relations between the two countries.

Heroin in Peshawar, Hashish in Karachi Seized

BK2708021289 Hong Kong AFP in English 1916 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 26 (AFP)—Authorities in Pakistan seized a large quantity of hashish and heroin in two separate raids Saturday [26 August], local television reported.

In the first raid customs officers recovered 20 kilos (44 pounds) of heroin from a car in northwestern Peshawar city, near the Afghan border. They were quoted as saying in the report that the drug had been smuggled in from Afghanistan.

In southern Karachi, local police seized 2,120 kilos (4,664 pounds) of hashish after a raid on a house following a month-long investigation. Television said three people were arrested in connection with the hashish which was apparently destined for the Gulf.

Sri Lanka

Officials Deny Bombs Aimed Against Premadasa

BK2508170989 Hong Kong AFP in English 1702 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] Colombo, Aug 25 (AFP)—Suspected Sinhalese rebels exploded three bombs in the Sri Lankan capital Friday, wounding five people, witnesses and officials said.

The explosions occurred shortly after President Ranasinghe Premadasa had gone past the crowded commercial hub of Pettah in Colombo, witnesses said.

Officials denied reports that it was an attack on the motorcade of the 65-year-old president.

"The blasts came long after the president passed the area," a senior official said, discounting some reports that the attack may have been aimed at the security convoy.

No one claimed responsibility for the explosions, but officials said they suspected the anti-government Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front).

LTTE Videotape Reportedly Shows Leader Alive

BK2508134589 Hong Kong AFP in English 1231 GMT 25 Apr 89

[Text] Colombo, Aug 25 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's main Tamil separatist group showed a videotape Friday to prove that its leader, rumoured to have been killed by his deputy, was still alive.

The tape, played before a group of reporters here, showed the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam's (LTTE) leader V. Prabhakaran in a jungle hideout conversing with his deputy, Krishnasamy Mahendrarajah, alias "Mahattaya."

The film, supposedly shot on August 11, showed Mr. Prabhakaran holding July 25 copy of THE DAILY NEWS, a state-controlled Colombo newspaper, which had carried an LTTE statement denying his killing.

There had been strong rumours, denied by the LTTE, in the island's Tamil-populated north and east that Mr. Prabhakaran was shot dead by his deputy when he intervened in a row between Mr. Mahendrarajah and another leader, named Kittu, also shown on the film.

A commentator on the tape blamed the Indian Government for the rumour and said after having failed to defeat the LTTE militarily, New Delhi was seeking to do it through false news.

The LTTE has been waging a bloody bush war against some 43,000 Indian troops in the islands north and east. The Indian Peacekeeping Force was deployed there under a July 1987 peace agreement between New Delhi and Colombo.

The LTTE repudiated the pact, which sought to end Tamil separatism on the island.

Tamil Group Accuses Government of Arming LTTE

BK2808104989 Hong Kong AFP in English 1032 GMT 28 Aug 89

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 28 (AFP)—A Sri Lankan Tamil political party accused Colombo Monday [28 August] of massively arming Tamil Tiger guerrillas to fight Indian troops in the island.

The Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) alleged in a statement that Sri Lankan Army and security forces were providing the rival Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) with weapons, logistic support and sanctuaries.

The statement issued in the southern Indian city of Madras said the objective of the Sri Lankan Government was to set up LTTE camps around the eastern Batticaloa District to carry out hit-and-run attacks.

The EPRLF administers Sri Lanka's Tamil-majority north-east where India has some 43,000 troops under a 1987 peace accord with Colombo aimed at ending a Tamil separatist campaign spearheaded by the Tigers.

Since October 1987 the Indian troops have been seeking to disarm the LTTE, the most powerful Tamil guerrilla group, which repudiated the accord and opened peace talks with Colombo in April this year.

The statement alleged that a Sri Lankan Army (SLA) camp in the island's northern Vavuniya District was sheltering "a number of LTTE cadres" and "they are all being looked after by the SLA."

It said that a second-ranking LTTE leader known by his nom de guerre, Aruna, and more than 40 LTTE cadres were spotted in combat uniforms at another Sri Lankan Army camp, in the North-Central Province.

The statement also quoted witnesses as seeing 24 armed LTTE guerrillas being passed by the Sri Lankan special task force at a check point in the North-Central Province without checks on Friday.

The predominantly Sinhalese North-Central Province borders Tamil-majority Batticaloa, a known EPRLF stronghold on the island's east coast.

The statement said these instances were proof of the "LTTE-SLA combine," whose "objective is to create camps along the border of Batticaloa District for future hit-and-run actions."

Indian troops are confined to the north-east and cannot leave the region even if they are attacked from outside.

The EPRLF said while Colombo was presenting a picture of bringing the LTTE into the democratic fold, "on the ground they are only strengthening the LTTE with weapons, logistic support and sanctuaries."

The LTTE is vehemently opposed to the Indian troops, whose continued presence has strained ties between Colombo and New Delhi. India has rejected a call by Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa urging them to leave.

More than 1,000 Indian soldiers and thousands of suspected guerrillas and civilians have died since fighting flared between the Indian peace keeping force and the LTTE in October 1987.

Motion To Extend State of Emergency Passed

BK2508112889 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Aug 89

[Text] The motion to extend the state of emergency by another month was passed in Parliament by a majority of 33 votes; 110 MP's voted for the motion while 77 voted against it. The MP's of Sri Lanka Freedom Party [SLFP], Mahajana Eksath Peramuna, Tamil United Liberation Front, the Tamil Independents Group [as heard], and the United Socialist Alliance voted against the motion. The MP's of Muslim Congress were not present in the chamber at the time of voting.

Winding up the debate, the minister of foreign affairs and state minister of defense, Ranjan Wijeratne, said that subversive elements will not be allowed to topple the legally elected government. He added that the government is winning the war against them.

The minister told Parliament that although the UNP [United National Party] had supported the SLFP government during the 1971 insurgency, the Sri Lanka Freedom Party is not extending any assistance to the government to solve the present crisis. He pointed out that the killings of politicians and other civilians of various sectors are continuing.

Mr Wijeratne said that the call to the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] to stop violence and to enter into the democratic process has fallen on deaf ears. The minister stressed the need to be united to eradicate terrorism from Sri Lankan soil.

5 Killed, 4 Injured by JVP 'Extremists'

BK2608125889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Aug 89

[Text] In Sri Lanka, five persons, including three policemen, were killed and four injured, when JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna—People's Liberation Front] extremists blew up a police vehicle in the northwestern part of the country last night.

A government communique in Colombo said that one person was killed by security forces when he failed to stop at a road block 35 kilometers North of the capital.

Meanwhile, one person was injured when Tamil militants fired on guards protecting the northeastern provincial council building in Trincomalee. Security measures have been tightened in the town following the incident.

Communique Says 500 More Indian Soldiers Depart

BK2708114889 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 Aug 89

[Text] A government communique says that 500 IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] soldiers left the Kankesanthurai harbor on board the Indian vessel (Kumbhakaran Shakti) at noon yesterday. The general officer commanding IPKF, Major General R.N. Bhalla; northern brigade commander of Sri Lankan Army, Brigadier Y. Balaratnarajah; and senior Indian and Sri Lankan Army and Navy officers were present to see them off.